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POLL RESULTS

Do you support a plan for the CNMI government to go back to the federal Social Security program for its pension program?

Yes 117

No 22

No opinion 8

Sunday, August 28, 2011

INSIDE



Menacing Storm

A weakened but still dangerous Hurricane Irene shut down New York and menaced other cities more accustomed to snowstorms than tropical storms as it steamed up the East Coast on Saturday.

Nation...Page 16



Killer Typhoon

A slow-moving typhoon made landfall in the Philippines on Saturday.

Asia...Page 17



Dispute Settled

After sparring for more than a year, Mel Gibson and his ex-girlfriend have reached a financial and custody settlement.

Life & Style...Page 21

MANGLONA CONFIRMATION AS DISTRICT COURT CHIEF JUDGE:

'A true milestone in CNMI history'



BILL BEZZANT / HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit Judge Mary M. Schroeder administers the oath of office for Ramona Villagomez Manglona as Chief Judge of the U.S. District Court for the NMI during Saturday's investiture ceremony. Also in the photo are Manglona's husband, associate justice John A. Manglona, and their children, Savana and Dencio, and mistress of ceremony Sonia A. Camacho. Inset shows newly sworn-in U.S. District Court for the NMI chief judge Ramona V. Manglona with her family, Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and his wife Josie, and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit Judge Mary M. Schroeder said the nomination and confirmation of Ramona Villagomez Manglona—making her the first federal judge from the Northern Marianas—is a true milestone in the history of the CNMI.

CNMI now has smallest population among US states and territories

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The CNMI's population of 53,883 as of April 1, 2010 is now the smallest among all U.S. states and territories, based on U.S. Census Bureau data.

The CNMI had a population of 69,221 in 2000, higher than American Samoa's population of 57,291 at the time.

Ten years later, American Samoa outranked the CNMI in terms of pop-

ulation.

American Samoa's population decreased by only 3.1 percent to 55,519 compared to the CNMI's 53,883.

A 22.2-percent decrease in the CNMI's population was mainly a result of the demise of the garment industry which used to employ thousands of workers from Asian countries and a general economic decline.

Guam has the third lowest population

See POPULATION on Page 4

"I hope that she (Manglona) will work with the Commonwealth judges here in order to ensure that the federal and Commonwealth courts, together, build a new and honorable tradition. If anyone can do it with dignity and grace, she can," said Schroeder in her keynote address

during Saturday's investiture ceremony for Chief Judge Manglona at the district courtroom.

Schroeder also administered the oath of office for Manglona.

See MILESTONE on Page 4

BEFORE FILING LAWSUIT ON LOCAL BILL'S PASSAGE

Senate awaits House action on casino special election

» Fitial: You mean to say Senate still wants to ask voters whether economy is bad?

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said senators will give the House of Representatives time to act on a newly passed Senate bill calling for a special election asking voters whether they want casino gambling on the island, before challenging



Manglona

the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's passage of a local bill he says is "unconstitutional."

Manglona also cautioned that a casino operation "is not a silver bullet" that will solve all the CNMI's financial problems.

"By passing this, the pub-
See SENATE on Page 4

Necropsy found abnormalities in kidneys, intestines of beached whale. PAGE 2
USCIS confirms sending officials to CNMI for CW rule. PAGE 3

Local

Necropsy found abnormalities in kidneys, intestines of beached whale

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Irregularities in the internal organs and a piece of plastic marine debris were among the preliminary findings that resulted in the necropsy conducted on the whale that has stranded itself on Micro Beach last week.

Assistant biology professor Kristi West of Hawaii Pacific University and regional marine mammal health and response manager T. David Schofield of the National Marine Fisheries Service under the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Adminis-

tration presented these findings to the public at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center Theater on Friday.

West and Schofield led the team that conducted the necropsy on Thursday to KW2011-016, believed to be a Cuvier's beaked whale that was discovered and put down to sleep on Aug. 23.

The necropsy, which lasted for about 13 hours, was held at the U.S. Islands Seafood facility along Beach Road in Garapan and initially involved a visual examination of the whale's various tissues.

Schofield said that there was abnormal coloration on the whale's intestines. "This is not the normal color of what we would see in intestines," he said. "We want to see nice, pink, fleshy looking intestines and not green, blue, and purple."

He noted, however, that it is uncertain whether the coloration was caused by the refrigeration of the whale's body for 24 hours or a sign of a bio toxin or a man-made toxin.

Schofield also discussed about the whale's kidneys which were "very, very sick" since these were heavily parasitized.

"We saw, in my opinion, the worst example of kidneys I have personally seen in stranded animals," said Schofield, describing the nodules found in the kidneys as the size of a golf ball.

Schofield, in an interview after the presentation, said all dolphins and whales carry some level of parasites in them.

"It's just that we don't expect a healthy whale to have this level of parasitism which means the whale might have been sick from something else to have this level of parasitism in its kidneys," he explained.

A circular piece of plastic

material that measures about one inch in diameter was also found in the whale's stomach.

"It's a piece of marine debris that man has put into the ocean because we're sometimes irresponsible with what we do with our trash," said Schofield, noting that the plastic material was in the whale's system but was not an obstruction to its intestines.

Schofield added that depending on whether or not the plastic material, which he said was already starting to break down, was petroleum-based or not,

they will sample it for evidence of toxicity.

"It remains to be seen whether we would categorize this stranding or morbidity as natural or whether it was a human-related cause of stranding," he said.

According to Schofield, it will take six months to one year before they could get the results from the four coolers filled with biological samples they obtained from KW2011-016 which weighed close to 2,500 lbs.

During the presentation, West also discussed necropsy and

See WHALE on Page 4

Man arrested for allegedly stealing bush cutter

A 32-year-old man was arrested in Tanapag last week for allegedly stealing a bush cutter from a residence in San Roque.

Nobert Taman Rios was arrested for theft.

Superior Court associate judge David A. Wiseman imposed a \$120 cash bail plus \$1,080 in unsecured bond for the defendant's temporary release.

Detective Buddy Igitol stated in his report that last Tuesday the victim told him and another detective at the Department of Public Safety that on Aug. 21, 2011 at 10:45am, a man she identified as Rios arrived at her home, asking to borrow a bush cutter to clean up her house.

The victim agreed and al-

lowed Rios to clean the yard. Later, the defendant asked the victim for a cup of water.

The victim looked at the window and saw Rios placing her bush cutter inside a vehicle driven by an old man.

The vehicle then sped off. The victim immediately ran toward her landlord for assistance.

The victim and her landlord and his wife checked several pawnshops, but they did not find the bushcutter. Later that day, the landlord spotted Rios in Tanapag and confronted him about the bush cutter.

Rios denied stealing the bush cutter and stated that he placed it by the red flowers at the victim's residence.

Detective Igitol said that on Aug. 22, they interviewed the driver of the vehicle where Rios allegedly place the bush cutter.

Igitol said the driver admitted that Rios attempted to place the bush cutter inside his vehicle, but he advised him not to do it.

(Ferdie de la Torre)

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USCIS confirms sending officials to CNMI for CW rule

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services said it will be sending representatives to the CNMI to help in the education campaign once the Common-

wealth-only transitional worker regulations are published.

USCIS is one of the component agencies of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Marie Thérèse Sebrechts, regional media manager for USCIS, said the outreach team includes

USCIS district director David Gulick, a community relations officer, a press officer, an officer from the California Service Center division that handles CNMI applications, and staff members from the USCIS legal counsel and policy who are familiar with

the CNMI regulations.

Team members will be coming from Hawaii, California and Washington, D.C., Sebrechts added.

Sebrechts said the USCIS does not yet have a date when the regulations will be published, but as in the past, USCIS will send out notice to the media and community organizations at that time.

The White House's Office of Management and Budget completed on Aug. 9 the review of the long-awaited CW final rule, ahead of the Sept. 15 review period deadline for the agency.

CNMI officials and community members said they hope DHS will soon publish the regulations in the Federal Register, with three months to go before Nov. 27.

That is the last day of the two-year period allowed under the federalization law wherein workers can still remain in the CNMI using a Commonwealth-issued permit.

After that, foreign workers need to have a U.S. employment visa such as a transitional CW visa or an H visa, or they could face deportation.

Sebrechts said USCIS fully anticipates that the regulations will be published before Nov. 28, 2011.

When asked whether foreign workers will still be subjected to advance parole and parole under the final CW rule, Sebrechts said USCIS has used advance parole and parole-in-place as temporary measures in the CNMI because no visa classification un-

der the INA allowed legitimate workers to continue to travel and return to the CNMI after traveling internationally or within the United States without a visa.

"Advance parole will not normally be considered for individuals who have received or who may be eligible for CW status in the CNMI, as they should normally obtain the nonimmigrant visa abroad for their return to the CNMI," she said.

The fee for Form I-29CW, as published in 2010, is \$325. There is also a mandatory CNMI education funding fee of \$150 fee per beneficiary.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan reiterated that the CW rules are separate from proposals to improve the immigration status of long-term aliens in the CNMI.

House to tackle FY 2012 budget bill tomorrow

The House of Representatives is expected to tackle the long-awaited fiscal year 2012 budget bill tomorrow, a month before the start of the new fiscal year on Oct. 1.

House floor leader George Camacho (Ind-Saipan) said yesterday that a House session to act on the budget is planned for tomorrow, but there's no specific time yet.

Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) introduced the \$102 million budget bill on Friday, a

day after Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos said the Fitial administration has been preparing for another partial government shutdown.

Basa told reporters that they will now be focused on passing the budget bill, especially now that the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation has already passed the local casino bill.

Senate President Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) said the Senate is just awaiting the passage of a budget bill from the House.

Some senators said the House's

delay in passing a budget bill gives the Senate only a month to review the budget bill and work with the House to address concerns.

Last year's deadlock between the House and Senate on the budget bill led to the partial government shutdown that forced over 1,000 government employees to be out of jobs for days, until a budget was passed and signed into law.

Basa's House Bill 17-215 retains the unpaid legal holidays and 16-hour work cuts biweekly. (Haidee V. Eugenio)



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SENATE

From Page 1

lic should not be fooled into thinking that it’s going to save our Retirement Fund, our medical referral, our 16-hour cut in government workers,” the Senate president said in an interview at the investiture ceremony for U.S. District Court for the NMI chief judge Ramona V. Manglona on Saturday.

The Senate president hopes that the House will immediately act on Senate Bill 17-90, which will ask voters in a special election the question, “Shall there be casino gambling in the Third Senatorial District?”

House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) said the leadership has yet to discuss the Senate bill, which the House received on Friday.

Sen. Ralph Torres’ (R-Saipan) SB

17-90 cleared the Senate Friday ahead of the Saipan delegation’s passage hours later of Rep. Stanley Torres’s (Ind-Saipan) House Local Bill 17-44.

Manglona said even if the governor signs the delegation bill into law, no investor will be “crazy” to come in and pay a \$10-million or \$130-million in general or exclusive license fee knowing that the court could later on declare the measure unconstitutional.

Just the same, Manglona said it would be best if the courts decide on the constitutionality of HLB 17-44.

He said the Senate does not want the CNMI government “to lie to our investors.”

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, for his part, said he has yet to see the local bill that the Saipan delegation passed on Friday, and at the same time questioned the Senate’s call for another special election to ask voters whether they want

casinos on the island.

“Why? You mean you still question your awareness that the economy is bad? You’re going to ask the voters, do you think the economy is bad?” Fitial said in an interview also at the judicial investiture ceremony on Saturday.

The Senate earlier said it will challenge in court the delegation’s passage of a local casino bill.

But after the Senate’s passage on Friday of a bill seeking to ask Saipan voters once again about legalizing casinos on Saipan, Manglona said the court challenge becomes secondary to what the House might decide on the Senate bill.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said the Fitial administration supports any new industry or investment that will revive the ailing economy.

“In this case, it happens to be the establishment of casinos. The governor will need to review the measure as

passed and ensure all safeguards to protect our citizens are adequately in place as well as provisions to make sure the industry is regulated well. Once the bill is transmitted to the governor and we have had the opportunity to review it, the governor will render a decision,” Demapan said.

The Saipan delegation is expected to transmit this week the local casino bill to the governor.

House minority leader Joseph Deleon Guerrero (R-Saipan) expressed disappointment that the local casino bill was voted on without discussion on the main motion to pass it.

“All the discussions were about the floor amendments, and none on the main motion. That’s disappointing,” Deleon Guerrero said.

HLB 17-44, CS1, D5 passed on a vote of 11-5 with one voting present and four absences.

Demapan said.

Manglona reiterated that if and when Saipan voters approve of casino legalization on the island, then a bill seeking to allow casino operations can be introduced either in the House or Senate.

Under the Senate bill, a special election shall be held within 90 days of the law’s signing.

“I believe it’s a reasonable proposal by Sen. Ralph Torres in trying to expedite the questionnaire itself. . .within 90 days. It’s not like we’re going to wait until November next year to have an election. . . Once the public signifies its approval of a casino gaming industry, we should move fairly quickly,” Manglona said.

Saipan voters had already twice rejected having a Saipan casino industry. The last vote was in 2007.

Manglona reiterated Macau-based casino consultant Ben Lee’s statement that a casino on Saipan should be a part of a bigger tourism project.

“It should be done with a water park, with shopping centers, eco-tourism. That’s the concept he’s foreseeing that will succeed. So it’s not going to be something that will realize \$100 million every year for the next how many years,” he said, adding that Lee projected less than \$10 million in casino revenue every year for Saipan.

Manglona said CNMI leaders “should not sit back and think that it’s a matter of voting for casino. I think we still need to talk about other issues such as Article 12, government operation, and streamlining departments and services. We need to talk about the Commonwealth Health Center. We have a law that turns that into a corporation. Why are we not moving toward that direction?”

The House leadership is planning to have a House session tomorrow, but there’s still no telling whether the Senate bill will be on the agenda.

MILESTONE

From Page 1

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial in his remarks disclosed that it was the influence and inspiration of Ramona’s late father, Manuel “Tan Ne” S. Villagomez, that were key factors in his decision to recommend Manglona in October 2009 for chief judge of the District Court for the NMI.

In her judicial address, Manglona noted the words “Equal Justice Under Law” that are engraved on the front of the U.S. Supreme Court Building in Washington, D.C.

“That is what I promise to do my utmost to secure in the District Court for Northern Mariana Islands. I am honored and humbled to have given that sacred trust,” said Manglona in concluding her address, drawing applause and standing ovation from the guests in the packed courtroom.

Stellar background

In her speech, Schroeder recalled that she was Manglona’s chief buster and cheerleader on Capitol Hill after President Obama nominated her.

“Mona—your background is stellar, your personal attributes wonderful. . .” Schroeder said. “What kicked your confirmation over the goal line was your beautiful name.”

Schroeder said the last time she spoke in a great event like this investiture was when she also served as a keynote speaker at the “Judicial Independence Day of CNMI Courts” in 2004 when the CNMI celebrated the end of discretionary review by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

She said she then came as “King George III” to give up power.

As a Chicago Cubs fan, Schroeder said, she noticed a sign at a Spring training game that said, “building a new tradition.”

The Northern Marianas that day, she said, were about building a new tradition for the Commonwealth courts.

“What I said was that we cannot know what the future will bring, but we can understand that the building blocks are people, and if they are to be strong building blocks, they must be familiar with a variety of legal traditions. They must embody the qualities necessary to produce leadership, constructive change, and shared positive values. They must be people with courage and self reliance,” Schroeder pointed out.

To find such people, she said, young people must be encouraged to seek environments that are enlightening and

nurturing.

Schroeder stressed that the main road to progress in simple word is education.

“Without educated leadership, we cannot have effective leadership, we need leaders of legal system who can make it function impartially and fairly, and provide sensible and prompt guidance for the judges and citizens of these islands,” she said.

Schroeder said Manglona is the kind of person that she was talking about—intelligent, educated, dedicated, and effective.

A father’s gift

In his remarks, Fitial said he came to know Manglona’s father, the late Manuel, fondly known as Tan Ne, since his early elementary years at Mt. Carmel School from 1956 to 1961.

“I vividly remember that on some days on my way home from school, I would hear Tan Ne, cheering his favorite baseball team, the San Francisco Giants, as he listened to the U.S. Major League Baseball games on the radio,” Fitial said.

The governor said as they chatted one day about an ongoing game, Tan Ne was surprised when he heard him (Fitial) talking about some of the famous baseball players on his favorite team.

“At that moment, he realized that he was never alone listening to the radio commentary of the Giants’ games,” Fitial said.

He said Tan Ne ensured that his children would go on to pursue higher education in the U.S. by acquiring a home away from home in San Leandro, California.

“Mona, is one of Tan Ne’s children who took advantage of her father’s gift for her future and went off to school and graduated with a law degree,” the governor said.

Fitial said from reading her rulings from the bench, he is pleased to state that he found Manglona to be “judiciously fair and impartial in her court decisions.”

“I firmly believe she developed her quality and integrity as a fair judge by diligently researching court cases and case laws upon which she based her final court rulings and decisions,” Fitial said.

He said soon after Judge Alex Munson announced his plans to retire as District Court Chief Judge, he and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos agreed that Manglona would be “perfect for the District Court.”

Judicial service

In her address, Manglona said it is truly and honor to be called to serve as a federal judge.

Manglona recalled that when she spoke eight years ago at her investiture as a Superior Court judge, she stated that judicial service is a duty of the profession which, if one is called to it, one should gratefully accept.

“Today, I gratefully, and humbly, accept this new trust and duty on behalf of the people of the Commonwealth,” she said.

Manglona said to all persons who may someday avail themselves of the district court—whether as litigants, lawyers, or jurors—she pledges to work tirelessly to ensure that in the CNMI, the people enjoy the same high quality of technology, facilities, and services that they have come to expect from the federal courts in jurisdictions throughout the U.S.

She said she looks forward to maintaining the District Court’s active role in the continuing education of the local Bar, as well as encouraging and supporting the community’s talented young people to pursue a legal career.

“The law is a noble profession. If, by my example as the Chief Judge of the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands, I can help promote the value of the legal profession within our community and especially our youth, I will truly be blessed,” Manglona said.

Manglona expressed her gratitude to President Obama, White House Counsel’s House, Judge Schroeder, Gov. Fitial, Congressman Gregorio Kilili Sablan, U.S. Senate Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy, former Gov. Juan N. Babauta, and to many other people, judges, lawyers, family members, court employees, and friends, who supported her.

Congressman Sablan also delivered brief remarks. He then read President Obama’s commission, which was the official act of appointment of Manglona to the District Court for the NMI as Chief Judge for a term of 10 years.

In December 2009, Sablan recommended Manglona to President Obama.

U.S. District of Guam Chief Judge Frances M. Tydingco-Gatewood delivered the welcome remarks. Manglona’s children—Savana and Dencio—presented the scales of justice and gavel.

CNMI associate justice John A. Manglona conducted the investiture of judicial robe to his wife of over 20 years.

Aside from Supreme Court of North Dakota Justice Daniel J. Crothers and other federal judges, among the guests in the ceremony were judges from Guam, CNMI, and Federated States of Micronesia.

On the Senate bill

House Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) said by taking the Senate’s route, the CNMI will take years to realize a casino industry that will help fund many of the critical services that the people need including medical referral, scholarship, and government payroll.

Basa said he was one of those who used to oppose casinos on Saipan, but he said there’s no alternative industry seen to help address the current economic conditions other than casinos.

The press secretary, for his part, said the problem with the Senate’s action on Friday is that “special elections can only be established by way of law to amend the constitution.”

“This bill does not aim to amend the Constitution and as such, cannot legally call for a special election. Therefore, it is not ripe for discussion at this time,”

POPULATION

From Page 1

among territories with 159,358 in 2010, a 2.9-percent increase from 154,805 in 2000.

The U.S. Virgin Islands’ population is 106,405, a 2-percent decrease from 108,612 in 2000.

Puerto Rico’s population is at 3,725,789, a 2.2-percent drop from 3,808,610 in 2000.

California’s population of over 37 million is the highest among all U.S. states, while Wyoming’s population of 563,626 is the lowest.

The states in between have a population of anywhere between 625,741 and over 25 million.

The United States population rose by 9.7 percent—from 281,421,906 in the 2000 Census to 308,745,538 as of April 1, 2010.

WHALE

From Page 2

pathology results from previous whale strandings they dealt with in Hawaii as part of the Hawaii Pacific University Stranding Response Program.

The other whale and the turtle

Schofield disclosed that they also took samples from the cranium and brain tissue of KW2011-015, the name given to the other stranded whale found dead on the back reef area outside Oleai Beach Bar & Grill.

But Schofield said that they are not sure how much information they can get

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan said while the decline in the CNMI’s population is “striking, it is not surprising.”

“For several years, we have witnessed many people leave our islands. Unfortunately, with our significantly lower population, a lot of our federal grants which are based on population will be affected. Now, more than ever, we must do all we can to maximize our increasingly limited resources to best serve our people,” Sablan said.

Among these grants are formula grants that are based on population.

Sablan said the CNMI receives a little over \$160 million in federal grants annually, a “good portion of which” is formula grant.

In the spring of 2012, the U.S. Census Bureau is scheduled to issue more Census 2010 data for the CNMI, including demographic profiles which will uncover basic demographic, social, economic and housing characteristics.

from KW2011-015 since the samples were taken from a decomposed whale.

“The more decomposed the whale, the less scientific information we can gather,” he explained.

A sea turtle, which was also found together with KW2011-016, also passed away after it was found. Dr. Ed Tudor, who was in the audience that night, disclosed that a small lesion was found on the turtle’s carapace but a turtle expert from Hawaii he talked to on the phone didn’t think the lesion caused any problem to the turtle.

“He passed despite all of our efforts,” said Tudor regarding the turtle which was administered with two liters of saline on its abdomen.

NMC post slight decrease in enrollment for Fall semester

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas College posted a slight decrease in enrollment this Fall 2011 semester with 1,137 total students compared to 1,232 enrollees during the same period last year.

Despite the dip in enrollment, NMC president Sharon Y. Hart is still happy with the enrollment figures.

"We're glad to see strong enrollment numbers for the upcoming term, despite the slight decrease from last year," she said, adding that registration for this Fall is still about 15 percent higher than two years ago and more than 44 percent higher than three years ago.

In Fall 2010, there were

EPA learns CUC not making progress on installing water meters

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has learned that the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has not made progress on installing water meters at locations that currently are unmetered.

In a report filed last week in the U.S. District Court for the NMI, EPA legal counsel Bradley R. O'Brien said based on CUC's July 27, 2011 progress report on its metering program, since at least April, three unmetered government accounts remain without meters.

"Similarly, the unmetered residential and commercial accounts appear little changed during the reporting period," O'Brien said.

He said CUC's progress report indicates that the utilities company continues to replace existing meters, although its pace has slowed.

From May to June, 2011, CUC replaced about 107 meters, but from June to July 2011, it only replaced about 33 meters.

O'Brien encouraged CUC to complete meter installations at the unmetered accounts.

CUC had failed to meet the Jan. 31, 2011 deadline to install water meters and bill all of its customers based on consumption as required by the second joint stipulation that CUC entered with EPA.

In February 2011, CUC's legal counsel Deborah E. Fisher informed the District Court that part of the delay has been due to the financial crisis that forced CUC to stop most of its company overtime so it could buy needed fuel to power its engines.

Fisher also disclosed that CUC has discovered that in some places, no meters at all were installed; meters were inappropriately installed; or, in some places, multiple meters feeding multiple water tanks were installed with no clear delineation of which meters were fed to what houses or apartments. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

1,232 students registered in Fall 2009, there were 991 students; and in the Fall 2008 there were 791 students.

NMC said that although headcount decreased by about 8 percent from last year, the college's full time equivalent (FTE) enrollment decreased even more slightly—only about 6 percent.

FTE is calculated by taking the total number credits students have registered for and dividing that figure by 12, which is the minimum number needed to be a full time student. Fall 2011 FTE is 1,186 while Fall 2010 FTE is 1,256.

"While it is essential that we look at the number of students served under our credit programs, it is equally important that we look at the numbers served in our non-credit programs like the Community Development Institute and the Adult Basic Education Program," said Hart.

The president said that last year, the college served more than 25,000 individuals in these non-credit programs.

"There is no mistaking the college plays a central role in educating and training tens of thousands of individuals each year, and this has been accomplished through our academic programs, job placement, research, training activities, and community development," added the president.

The college also announced earlier that it adjusted its Fall 2011 semester to ensure that members of the community who have legal status to remain in the CNMI through CNMI-issued umbrella permits have the opportunity to enroll in courses during the upcoming term.

The adjusted semester now ends on Nov. 26, 2011, three weeks earlier than the traditional end date of December. The duration of the term will comprise of 13 weeks of instruction, (Aug. 22 to Nov. 19) with Nov. 21-23 and 26 serving as final exam dates. The new class schedule can be accessed by visiting the Fall 2011 registration page on the NMC website.

College officials have assured that the shorter term will not affect the number of courses offered or the variety of programs offered, but will lengthen meeting times for classes by 10 to 30 minutes.

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1. Having diabetes isn't really a serious problem.

*False: **"Diabetes causes more deaths every year than breast cancer and AIDS combined. Two out of three people with diabetes die from heart disease or stroke."**

*Source: American Diabetes Association

Why is there only one question on this quiz—do you really need any more?

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Yes, we accept your insurance — all major insurance plans accepted.

TakeCare partners with Make-A-Wish to send kid to see Spongebob

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A day with Spongebob Squarepants at Universal Studios.

That's how Kenji Iguel will celebrate his fifth birthday as TakeCare/FHP donated \$8,300 to subsidize his and his family's airfare, accommodations, meals, and entrance to the theme park in Orlando, Florida next month.

TakeCare/FHP partnered with Make-A-Wish Foundation to grant the wish of Iguel, who suffers from a brain neoplasm and epilepsy.

Iguel is the second among the three brood of Manning Iguel and Jennifer Pangelinan. He currently attends school at the Oleai Head Start program.

Board members and execu-



CLARISSA V. DAVID

Four-year old Kenji Iguel, seated right, holds his Spongebob balloon as he poses with parents Manning Iguel and Jennifer Pangelinan and sisters Jemalynn and Keralynn Iguel for a group photo at the TSL Plaza conference room on Friday.

tives of TakeCare/FHP presented the donation to Iguel's family at the TSL Plaza conference room in Garapan Friday afternoon.

Iguel, who never lets go of his Spongebob balloon, also blew a birthday cake topped with figures of his favorite cartoon character along with his pal, Patrick Star, in celebration of his birthday on Sept. 5.

"There are no words to describe how we feel right now," said Manning Iguel in an interview before the presentation.

Manning Iguel said their family is scheduled to leave on Sept. 1 for Orlando, where they will be staying for a week.

"This is our first time to travel to the mainland together as a family," he told *Saipan Tribune*. "We're really happy and excited."

While his son is unable to speak due to his condition, Manning Iguel maintained that his son is delighted about their trip. "I know he will be very happy because he really likes Spongebob," he added.

Manning Iguel expressed his appreciation to Make-A-Wish Foundation, TakeCare/FHP, and his son's doctors.

"My wish for my son is to be healthy and to be a regular kid just like everybody. No matter what, I love him very much and I know God has a plan for us," he added.

Agnes Perez, TakeCare mar-

keting manager, said TakeCare/FHP has partnered with Make-A-Wish Foundation through fundraising events "for so many years" and decided to do it differently this year.

"What we did differently is basically, we grant a wish and it makes it more personal," she said.

According to Perez, TakeCare/FHP also granted the wishes of three children in Guam.

Perez disclosed that they were informed by Make-A-Wish Foundation about Kenji Iguel's wish and decided to partner with the foundation to grant the wish.

"We want people to be aware of Make-A-Wish Foundation and what they do. Just that partnership alone is a big thing for us. It's part of our community effort to help," she said.

When asked for her message to the Iguel family, Perez said, "Enjoy it. Have fun. This is like a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to go out to Universal Studios."

Make-A-Wish Foundation Saipan board member Angela Yamashita Santos, for her part, expressed her appreciation to TakeCare/FHP for their partnership in granting Kenji Iguel's wish.

"In these tough economic times, we're just so grateful for them and for their partnership with Make-A-Wish Foundation," she said.

Santos said the foundation's partnerships with private companies such as TakeCare/FHP are instrumental in helping them achieve their goal to grant wishes to children with life-threatening conditions.

"These kids, they go through a lot and they're so young," said Santos. "They deserve a whole lot of happiness."

CNMI COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES



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NMC's Hart appeals budget revision for NMC

Northern Marianas College president Sharon Y. Hart appealed to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial on Thursday to revise the budget submission for the college, saying the \$4 million being proposed for the college next fiscal year would result in a potential loss of \$6 million in federal assistance.

Hart said the \$4 million budget plan for the college's personnel and operation is short by \$1.2 million of the \$5.2 million that is mandated for NMC under the maintenance-of-effort requirement of the U.S. Department of Education. NMC gets \$1.5 million every year for four years for its College Access Challenge Grant Program, which helps the college increase enrollment numbers and boost student success.

"I respectfully submit to you this appeal for a \$5.2 million budget floor under appropriations to the college for fiscal year 2012," stated Hart in her letter to the gov-

ernor on Thursday.

Hart said she fully understands the need for NMC to share in the burden of a reduced budget for 2012 but NMC is the one institution that can help recharge and revitalize the economy. Any cuts to the college budget, she said, will diminish the multiplier effect on the economy.

According to Hart, NMC has responded to the decrease in legislative funding by leveraging federal resources to sustain operations.

"Funding made available through SFSF [state fiscal stabilization fund] and the College Access Challenge Grant Program, for example, have allowed the college to fill or maintain 23 positions of priority over the past year which are now at risk, due in part, to the level of appropriations to NMC recommended for 2012," said Hart.

Without weighing in the increasing challenges of running the college at a smaller budget

in 2012, Hart said the loss of \$6 million in federal funding alone over the next four years to support scholarship awards, student learning, and student success will affect NMC's ability to meet the standards of accreditation for a higher education insti-

tution in the region.

Accreditation may also be jeopardized by any further funding cuts because the commission standards require that "financial resources are sufficient to support student learning programs and services and

to improve institutional effectiveness," and that the "level of financial resources provides reasonable expectation of both short-term and long-term financial solvency."

Hart disclosed that accreditation qualifies NMC and its

students for \$7.8 million each year in federal financial aid and federal program. Further cuts in the college's budget would mean jeopardizing the ability of students and the college to avail of these funds. *(Moneth G. Deposa)*

ISTS-Driver Training Academy set to close

The ISTS-Driver Training Academy is shutting down its classroom facility at the end of September.

Low enrollment numbers have prompted this decision. Individuals wishing to avail of the program can still take a class, but must register before Monday, Sept. 5.

The laboratory curriculum will continue until all of the current students, plus those who register prior to Sept. 5, complete that part of the program.

Owner Rich Puhalla would like to thank his students and the community for their support over the five years that the school has been in operation. *(PR)*



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP 11-GOV-121



Legal Services For Water Task Force (Funded by the Dept. of Interior)

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos through the Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed Proposals from qualified individuals or firms for Legal Services for the Water Task Force on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). This contract for professional services will be funded by grant funds from the Office of Insular Affairs, U.S. Department of Interior.

The proposal package will be available on or after **August 15, 2011** at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan or by request faxed to (670) 664-1515.

All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than **4:30 PM, August 24, 2011** to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager (facsimile) number: (670) 664-2279.

The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations. Preference is not available to local proposers in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Proposals must be sealed and marked "**Legal Services**", **RFP 11-GOV-121** One (1) original and four (4) copies must be submitted. Proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply, at Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **3:00 pm, September 14, 2011 (CNMI local time)**.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/s/ Benigno R. Fitial
Governor

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement & Supply



INVITATION FOR BIDS WATER TASK FORCE IFB11-GOV-004



Governor Benigno R. Fitial, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for the **PAPAGO WATERLINE IMPROVEMENT** in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A bid guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of the Treasury (T-Listed)

The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a US Treasury listed company. The Contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal laws including the Davis Bacon Act.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award for this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA.

The project consists, in general, but is not limited to:

- Install approximately 6,900 linear feet of 8 inch underground PVC waterlines and 500 linear feet of 6 inch underground PVC waterline with appurtenant valves, fittings, air relief valves and blow-off valves.
- Install service laterals and water meters.
- Connect to existing waterlines.
- Restore disturbed asphalt paving.
- Pressure testing and chlorination of new waterlines.
- Conduct the area topographic and easement surveys.
- Construction activity to not interrupt existing water service to the area.

A non-refundable payment of \$500 to CNMI Treasury is required for each set of Plans, Specifications, and Proposal Forms, available on or after **August 8, 2011** at the Water Task Force Office, 1316 Anatahan Drive, Capitol Hill, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at 10:00 a.m., on **August 19, 2011**, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan. A project site visit will be made as a part of the pre-bid meeting.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:30 PM on **August 18, 2011**.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked "**IFB-GOV-004**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 3:00 pm local time **September 6, 2011**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 3:00 pm local time **September 6, 2011**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **September 6, 2011**, and must be received no later than **September 15, 2011**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan at 3:00 pm local time, **September 16, 2011**. However, if no Notices of intent to bid were received from the bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 pm local time on **September 7, 2011**.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/S/ Benigno R. Fitial
Governor and Contracting Officer

/S/ Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply

1,100 new laptops for junior high students expected next month

Public School System federal programs officer Tim Thornburgh disclosed last week that 1,100 brand new laptops are expected to arrive on island on Sept. 23 to be distributed to all seventh graders in public and private schools.

PSS earlier projected to accommodate over 800 seventh graders in public schools this school year. Thornburgh said the expected new technologies will also be shared with private junior middle school students.

Under PSS' One-Laptop-Per-Child project initiated last school year, high school students were permitted to own the technology while seventh to 11th graders will receive their units in their next level.

Saipan Tribune learned that PSS utilized some funding from the consolidated grant to accommodate the new laptops for seventh graders.

Over 6,000 brand new laptops were already procured and distributed by PSS last school year using the state fiscal stabilization fund. The intent is to aid students in their learning and advancement.

PSS was awarded \$32.2 million in SFSF for the renovation, modernization, and repairs of the school campuses. A portion of this funding was also utilized in paying for the salary of highly qualified teachers and paying for the utilities of public schools.

On Thursday, Thornburgh also reported that PSS has been consistently monitoring the spending of its American Recovery and Reinvestment Act money which will expire next month.

He said there were 12 contractors working on 40 projects of the school system all throughout the CNMI, all of which are in the final stages of completion. *(Moneth G. Deposa)*



BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

To my beloved grand mother Monica Cruz Lizama better known as Nang Kokang. Biba kumple anos para hagu yan hu guiya hao ya esta ki man ati hit na dos. Guini as Martinie Josie Santos Calvo.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Aug. 29, 2000

FAA poised to take over airport tower equipment

The Federal Aviation Administration is taking over the control of navigational aids and equipment at the Saipan International Airport tower beginning October in fresh efforts to make the Commonwealth's air transport facilities at par with other international airports. Ports Authority Executive Director Carlos H. Salas said FAA is actually assuming control in the maintenance of about 78 pieces of equipment at the airport tower, the runway and around the runway safety area. "FAA will take over about 90 percent of maintenance work of most of the equipment beginning October this year. They are also eventually setting up an office on the island to do all the needed repair," Mr. Salas said.

Strategic Economic Devt Council tackles plan

The CNMI's Strategic Economic Development Council (SEDC) comprised of private and public representatives met anew last week in what is expected to be an accelerated series of meetings aimed at producing a long-term development plan by the end of this year. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio, House Speaker Benigno R. Fitial, and Senate Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez joined key executives from local and regional banks, hotels, retailers, and travel agents at the meeting, where the chief executive reaffirmed his commitment to the goals of the Council. Those goals are to develop a strategic economic plan to guide future development in the CNMI through improvement of the quality of life for citizens and cushioning the anticipated loss of local manufacturing.

Aug. 29, 2001

CUC calls PUTC a failure

A lawyer of the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation called a house committee a "failure" when it declared a hands-off policy on the Commonwealth Development Authority's claim involving more than \$100 million in CIP funds. "Whereas the House [committee on] PUTC [Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications] failed to resolve the matter, perhaps the intervention of the legislature through the Senate will result in a more proactive effort by our representative," said CUC counsel Robert T. Torres. A lawsuit was filed by the CDA against the CUC to collect three sets of loans totaling \$51.5 million, but which have ballooned to roughly \$102 million due to interests. The house committee has maintained its stand to leave the matter to the judiciary.

DOLI inspector nabbed for firearms possession

An inspector of the Department of Labor and Immigration is facing charges of unlawful carrying of a firearm, carrying a firearm while under the influence of alcohol, and disturbing the peace. Marvin Rodney Pangelinan, 29, was brandishing a caliber-223 gun when a responding police officer succeeded in snatching the weapon from the accused. Chief government prosecutor Kevin Lynch said Pangelinan harassed a group of people entering the Arizona Sports Bar. While outside the establishment, Pangelinan allegedly became belligerent, threatening to harm several people.

Aug. 29, 2002

DOF asked to release \$110K for Rota

The chairman of the Rota Legislative Delegation has instructed the Department of Finance to release some \$110,000 for the voucher program that Rota Mayor Benjamin Manglona had established in the wake of the devastation of Typhoon Chata'an. In a letter to Finance Secretary Frankie B. Villanueva, delegation chairman Sen. Ricardo S. Atalg asked for the release of the funds in accordance with the mandate of Public Law 13-21 and Rota Legislative Delegation Resolution 13-8. The \$110,000 for the voucher program is part of the \$462,322 that the delegation had reprogrammed from previous allocations to fund the rehabilitation of Rota.

Aviation sector suffers slowdown

Fewer aircraft landed on the Saipan International Airport last month compared to landing statistics recorded in June 2002, a report from the Commonwealth Ports Authority disclosed. Aircraft landing statistics shrunk 9.7 percent in July 2002 from 1,219 airplanes during the month earlier to 1,100. The number of outbound passengers also dropped by 1.8 percent from 45,277 in June 2002 to 44,447 the following month.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director
INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-11-046



INSTALLATION OF A NEW 500,000 GAL. DIESEL FUEL TANK AT PP 1, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced engineering firms for preparation of a new foundation, fabrication, assembly, installation and commissioning a new Above Ground Oil Storage Tank (AST), as per the specifications contained in the bid document and monitored through a construction management firm and/or a third party quality control firm, contracted by CUC.

The new foundation, tank and accessories have been designed by a U S based company and will be supplied to Saipan port. CUC will pay for the customs clearance and delivery, freight costs to a designated location at the power plant site, which will be agreed between CUC and the winning contractor. The current schedule for delivery for the new tank to Saipan is 10th September, 2011. CUC will ensure that such schedules are promptly communicated to the contractor as soon as they are aware of any change in the schedule so that sufficient and reasonable notice is available to the contractor for their actions. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 180 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The Bid Package and Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a deposit (non-refundable) from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the **amount of \$ 250.00 for one set**; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, until August 22, 2011.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit will be held on **August 15, 2011 at 9:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Power Plant Conference Room, Lower Base, Saipan. Attendance is not mandatory.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC IFB 11-046-INSTALLATION OF A NEW 500,000 GAL. DIESEL FUEL TANK AT PP 1, SAIPAN" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 31, 2011**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms, without alteration. Bidders may supplement this form with additional explanation, as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 30 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code. Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 24, 2011** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. Venugopal Prabhakara, Managing Engineer, PG, via email - venu@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director
INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-11-047



QA / QC OF A NEW 500,000 GAL. DIESEL FUEL TANK AT PP 1, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified and experienced third party inspection firms to provide CUC or the Construction Manager (CM), "Quality Control (QC) and Quality Assurance (QA) Services" during the preparation of a new foundation, fabrication, assembly, installation and commissioning the tank and connected pipeline, if any, as per the specifications contained in the bid document.

The new foundation, tank and accessories have been designed by a U S based company and will be supplied to Saipan port. CUC will pay for the customs clearance and delivery, freight costs to a designated location at the power plant site, which will be agreed between CUC and the winning contractor. The current schedule for delivery for the new tank to Saipan is 10th September, 2011. CUC will ensure that such schedules are promptly communicated to the contractor as soon as they are aware of any change in the schedule so that sufficient and reasonable notice is available to the contractor for their actions. CUC requires the Construction Project to be completed in 180 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The Bid Package and Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a deposit (non-refundable) from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the **amount of \$ 100.00 for one set**; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, until August 22, 2011.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit will be held on **August 15, 2011 at 9:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Power Plant Conference Room, Lower Base, Saipan. Attendance is not mandatory.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB 11 - 047 - QA / QC OF A NEW 500,000 GAL. DIESEL FUEL TANK AT PP 1, SAIPAN" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 30, 2011**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms, without alteration. Bidders may supplement this form with additional explanation, as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 30 days after submission. All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 24, 2011** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. Venugopal Prabhakara, Managing Engineer, PG, via email - venu@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-11-048

GEO THERMAL ENERGY DEVELOPMENT ON SAIPAN, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced firms to explore for and develop geothermal energy on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the purpose of generating electricity. Proximity to the active Mariana volcanic arc, extensional faulting, and the occurrence of shallow water wells with anomalous temperatures suggest that sufficient geothermal resources may exist beneath Saipan to support generation of electricity using binary plant technology.

Proposer must submit a development plan including: (1) a timeline and milestones for resource assessment, exploration drilling, resource development and plant construction, and delivery of electricity to the grid; and (2) a pricing schedule for electricity delivered to the grid. The successful Proposer must have demonstrated capability and provide equipment and materials necessary to (1) assess geothermal potential and identify targets for exploratory drilling, (2) perform exploration- and production-hole drilling, and (3) construct and operate geothermal power plants.

The RFP package and Scope-of-Work will be e-mailed to all interested Offerors, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash or check, in the amount of \$ 200.00 for one set; by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **August 17, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**, at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-048, Geothermal Energy Development on Saipan, CNMI" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **September 6, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email in PDF format, to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **August 22, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Mr. Wallon Young, CUC Deputy Director, Power Generation/Distribution, via email address wallon59@yahoo.com and Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications of prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-11-049

INSTALLATION OF SEWER SERVICE LINES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the installation of Sewer Service Lines in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists in general of the installation of sewer service lines to existing CUC sewer mains. When CUC customers are approved for sewer service, the contractor will obtain the required permits and connect them to the existing sewer mains. The work will include the sewer service line, sewer saddles, asphalt repairs, septic tank abandonment. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract or when the funds are exhausted.

The Bid Package and Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 100.00 (nonrefundable) for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held on **August 16, 2011 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-049, Installation of Sewer Service Lines" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 1, 2011**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code. Please refer to other bidding requirements described in Document 00200 - Instructions to Bidders.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 19, 2011** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net, Commander, Kenneth Esplin-Water/Wastewater Engineer via email kenneth_esplin@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

President, Congress must act on trade agreements

On his Midwest bus tour last week, President Barack Obama bashed obstructionists in Congress for blocking passage of free-trade accords with Colombia, Panama and South Korea. If only these opponents would get out of the way, he suggested, these agreements would be law, American exports would rise and more jobs would be created.

But Obama left something out.

The agreements can't be passed until the administration submits them to Congress and it has not yet done this, although a spokeswoman for the U.S. Trade Representative said the administration "has been eager" to do that.

It's nice to hear they're so eager, although the sentiment would be more convincing if the agreements were actually submitted.

The real problem is squabbling over the level of aid under a program for workers displaced by foreign competition. Democrats seek to keep spending at elevated levels, while Republicans want to scale back to earlier levels.

Surely this issue could be handled separately while Congress moves on the three trade deals, which were all signed before Obama came into office.

While they've been on the shelf, the world has moved on.

Colombia's ambassador to the United States, Gabriel Silva Lujan, notes that U.S. farmers once claimed 46 percent of Colombia's food import market. Now the proportion is 20 percent — and likely to go lower. A free trade pact between Colombia and Canada, another big wheat exporter, went into effect last week.

Colombia is the sixth-largest market for Caterpillar, another big U.S. exporter. But Caterpillar's products, too, may be at a disadvantage in Colombia's growing mining sector, as Colombians seek alternatives free of the tariff-based mark-ups applied to U.S. products.

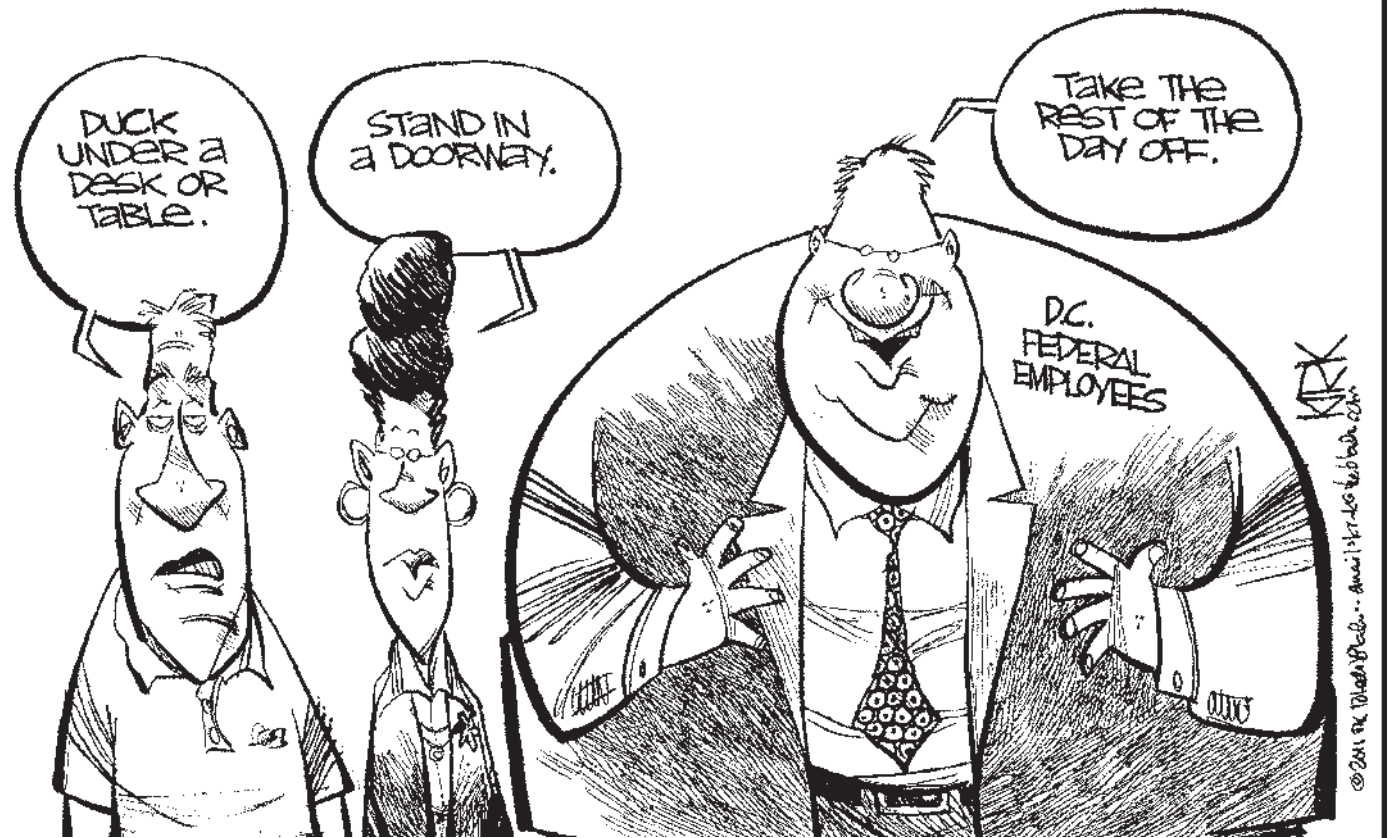
All of this makes little sense when you consider that U.S. tariffs on Colombian goods are already minimal, while their tariffs on our goods remain quite stiff. The agreement would lower that barrier.

As Obama himself once said, "If America sits on the sidelines while other nations sign trade deals, we will lose the chance to create jobs on our shores. We have to seek new markets aggressively, just as our competitors are."

Well said, Mr. President. Now please submit the agreements.

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IN THE EVENT OF AN EARTHQUAKE...



True growth comes from within, not from without

"YOU ARE WHAT YOUR DEEP, DRIVING DESIRE IS,
AS YOUR DESIRE IS, SO IS YOUR WILL.
AS YOUR WILL IS, SO IS YOUR DEED.
AS YOUR DEED IS, SO IS YOUR DESTINY."

—From the Upanishad

Give us casinos! GIVE US CASINOS! Give us marijuana! GIVE US MARIJUANA! So the cry goes. It gets louder and louder daily. We constantly keep looking for freebies and ways to sell our souls for a few measly dollars to outsiders. These are the cries of desperate people ready to sell their souls. When are we going to grow up?

Yes, I am angry and upset at what we are trying to do to salvage our economy. No, I am not pointing fingers at anyone for I am a part of my society. All ideas should be explored and discussed. So let's explore and discuss the two repetitive ideas that supposedly will lead to an economic recovery.

Yes, casinos make money, but not for you and me. They make money for the investors and certain other people on the inside. But the man on the street does not benefit. Will casinos reduce the line-up at the food stamp office? Will they create jobs for the citizens? Will they bring pride and dignity to our community?

Here is another question? Is everyone in Las Vegas wealthy and does everyone possess a good job? I know several people from Saipan who live there and are barely making a living. They work hard and long hours. They tell me the cost of living is expensive also. Check out what is happening in Las Vegas in its real estate market and to its economy. Horrible situation!

Are the people in Tinian wealthy, and do they possess good jobs after having a multimillion dollar casino for 10 years? Are the casino owners happy also? If casinos are so lucrative why does the Tinian Dynasty owe the government over \$30 million? How could that happen? Will we ever see a penny of it?

Has Saipan become a better place to live because of the poker machines? Why don't the tourists play them? Have we become prosperous because of poker machines? Why are they slowly being phased out?

Have any of us ever seen the accounting needed to investing and operating a casino on Saipan? Have any of us seen the spread sheets that reveal the expected amount of money to be earned by the government? Do we know how many players are needed to make X amount of dollars just to amortize the investment let alone make a profit? Where are these players going to come from?

Before any business is started numerous studies must be made and figures estimated showing income, expenses, risk, and profits. Where are the numbers pertaining to any casino operation intended for Saipan?

By **ANTHONY PELLEGRINO**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



Please, let's see them. If they are so good and show profits, I will shut up and vote for a casino. But if we are expected to just nod our head in agreement that automatically a casino is a gigantic money maker, than I cannot go along with the idea. We need hard facts and numbers that can be substantiated. Please, let's not put our heads in the sand with our butts sticking out. They will be soundly kicked.

Okay, let's grow marijuana for medicinal purposes. Yes, doctors will give prescriptions to needy patients and—wala!—the patient will quickly recover. As a result of this magic, the CNMI will receive millions of dollars while saving thousands of lives that conventional medicine cannot save. Thousands of tourists will flock here seeking the miracle drug. Wow! Just think of it! We will alleviate suffering patients' pain and give them back their healthy lives with the miracle drug called "marijuana!"

Has anyone ever done a study to see what the marijuana situation in the CNMI now? I have spoken to teachers and principals who have told me that students often come to class stoned. Are we aware of this? Who will control all the marijuana that will be scattered around the islands farmed by local people? Who will monitor the sales and collection of taxes? The questions go on and on.

Why not include opium from which we can make morphine and codeine? The list goes on if we want to make medicine from drugs. Please, stop insulting our intelligence with all this garbage. Yes, we may be 80 percent stupid, but not 100 percent.

When we open the casinos and plant marijuana for medicinal use, let's also auction off licenses for houses of prostitution. Hey, the heavy rollers need some relaxation and we want to accommodate them. I want to be one of the first to apply for a house of prostitution. Why not? What's wrong with that? It will bring in millions of dollars along with our other ventures. As we go along we can find other money making ventures just as sleazy.

Let me stop joking and get serious for a moment. The above ventures are parasitic and demeaning. They pander to the lowest emotions of people. And with them go our last ounce of pride and dignity. But why do I sound so upset?

Let's sit and think about what we are about to do. What incentives do the above ideas offer our citizens to become engaged in rebuild-

See TRUE on Page 14

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The Saipan Tribune reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Petrowealth in China's *Wanglishitang*

How are you doing with the Chinese Communists? was the way the question from family, friends, and associates was posed. The accent on "communists" was very telling as it became evident that the question did not seek understanding as much as it sought confirmation of their fear and prejudice on the terrible red shirts of Zhongguo.

This was very pronounced among fellow *Pinoys* who are otherwise glocal in perspective but in this case, carried the homegrown prejudices against China. My mother used to exclaim when we exhibited unrefined manners: "*Kas ka la Intsik* (the last word being a pejorative term used against the 'uncouthed' Chinamen)?" We also referred to them as "tsonggoy," which is a play on "onggoy" (mon-key) and "Zhongguo" (Chinese).

Wanglishitang, the "Ten thousand miles of Stone Pond" in old Chinese maps, is South China Sea in contemporary geography, except the Philippines recently started calling it the West Philippine Sea. Prejudice, I can understand; subservience to oil, I don't.

This traditional stone pond was claimed by French Indochina when it extended the sovereignty of Vietnam to the Spratlys at a time when the Chinese government was too weak to raise a howl. The warlord period and civil war did not help until the Kuomintang finally found its national *cajones*, but it came too late as its rival, the Communist Party, through the people's liberation army, peasants, students and industrial workers propelled itself. The U.S. saw red and fanned the heat of fear some more.

The Philippines and Vietnam have since occupied parts of Spratly, and islands in the Paracel, by Vietnam and Taiwan. The objective evidence that the South China Sea basin was a part of China's geography no longer applies since the area is rich in fish and mineral resources; commercial oil gushed out in Palawan in 1974 while Brunei and Malaysia hit black gold earlier. Covetousness is primetime.

Attikulu Dose umakontra yan tradision

Ti ayu i oppan dañosu gi papa' Attikulu Dose 'nai gaige problema soluke i uma'atog gi santatte 'nai para u tulai-ka i fandamenton sisteman dueñon yan disposision tanu guine.

Pot ihempo: Pot mas ke kuarto sientos años kada unu gi entre hita dueño kabales 'nai uttimu disposision tanu' gaige giya hita mismu.

I Attikulu Dose, yangin in repara kabales, gaige na para unna' fan dueño todos ni tanu' praiabet na propiadat. Deste ñgai'an este na para tasede para u chule' guan hit ni tano'ta lau hagas tradision tanu' i kada unu dueño ni tanoña?

Pot fabot atan ya muñga man-tinane ni mampos suspichosu na probision 'nai malimite haye siña gai tanu' guine sa' gi mismu ti-empo inamot hau nu i propiadatmu. Taitai i Attikulu Dose ya in'fan mampos antau na kuestion siha ya unna' klaru hinassomu.

Sueno! Nachatsaga Na Mensahe

Silensiu i chatagmag 'nai hu huñgog sueno na katen gayu gi chagu'. Hu konsidera kau pot mampos katma i hinalom oga'an mina' oppan mampos ayu na katen gayu. Lau dispues linimus ni burukan ruplanu ni dumiñgu Saipan guihe na chatagmag.

Esta na' fugu i triste yan na mahalanng na katiña piot sa' ha gu'ot attension-hu. Sige hu dibina hafa mohon sustansiaña. Era, i sueno na mensahe kulan notisia para i linahyan na guaha mamamaila' ginen i chagu. Antes giya Pagan, sueno mafattu ginen unu gi tautau niha gi hegsu Regusa. Era guaha batko kakaghalom ginen Saipan gaige gi puntan tasi.

Lau i sueno ni huhuñgog ti pot finatton batko. Buente notisia na

In 1949, China reestablished its territorial integrity and she got the goodwill of Koreans in Manchuria during the Korean conflict, but was severely criticized for its crackdown on Tibet (Xizang). The Islamic "Stans" in its borders pressures Urumqi and the rest of Xinjiang, but China's rather liberal treatment of its minorities make it within internal management. The Dalai Lama's vocal opposition after a reactionary armed uprising earlier makes the reconciliation difficult; the West's continuing decision to take side leaves the situation more confrontational than necessary.

Claims on Spratly and Paracel are aggressive, with physical occupation of islands unilaterally undertaken without knowledge of the others involved. Muscle is deployed by all parties, with unhappy consequences. Vietnam solidifies its claims by naval visitation leaving Malaysia, the Philippines, and Brunei hanging on to the 1983 Convention on the Laws of the Sea of which China is a signatory. The U.S. Senate declined to ratify it.

We go with Chief Washington of Seattle who, when his tribe was asked to sell some real estate to the U.S. government, allegedly responded: "How can we sell what we do not own?" *Wanglishitang* by practical definition, can no longer be fully claimed by China; on the other hand, those who have asserted themselves into the territory need to recognize that what are wells of petrowealth, fish and mineral resources had been China's sovereign domain, and the resolution of claims and counterclaims on a win-win basis can be reached only by consensus rather than force.

Ours has become a contentious world. The U.S. continues to rattle the saber, the latest being VP Joe Biden's proud declaration that the U.S. will be a Pacific power even as its forward military installations in 150 countries have become obsolete. Washington encourages Vietnam and the Philippines to assert their sovereign rights over disputed islands through military capability on the pre-

guaha mamamaila' un' seriusu na chinatsaga para i tautau-ta siha. Gi todú birada ha sufa' hit sumen guaguan na apas utilidat, gaselina, fektus yan otru siha subrida kontra pottanmonedan familia. Lau i sueddo tabla gi sagaña 'sino ma'utot. Ai, puedde ti mas makat i mamamaila' sa' trabiha i dadalag ha' este i talilie'.

■■■

Duru i prohimu umahala yan hinaguetña medianu na guile. Sige umafulu' estake ha hatsa gi hilu' lamasan mattiñgan. Mientras tantos, duru i otru amiguña umetupag gi halom fañuchuyan guiha 'nai pesa chaiguan. Manhala lokue' dispues mas ke medianu na tataga'.

Machule' dispues talayan niha ya mayotte gi fina dañikulu na fina' hoyu gi kanton unai. Todas talu 'nai marikohe talayan niha. Guahu ha' tai kineni' sa' balakon chiliguagua'yu'. Lau mauleg dispues mapatteghu. Nahoñg na kelaguen tiau ni mana' chinatfinue' ma'sun yan un' tinilada na doni' sali. De dios na amotsan taloane yu'i.

Lau diberas na sa'pet i halom titiñgtiñg na somnag. Taya' kampu para misirikotdia. Entre un' suñgon lahe 'sino tulus hau para iya hamyu.

■■■

Umasoda' dos amigu. Unu kulan misin mikosna sa' sinagu. Sinann-gane ni amiguña na buente makat ha sabureha hafa ha kakano'. Ilegña ayu na ha suhaye lugat kimuderu pot no u inadite ni chetnotna.

■■■

Manae' iun'patgon papet ni maestraña. Ilegña na si John Boy debi u o'mag diariu yan u areglau trahiña antes de u hanau para i eskuela.

Lalalu' i nana pot masañgane ni mutuñg patgoña. Humanau gi

ters. Perhaps more disturbingly, this stereotype of Micronesians as victims, scapegoats, and scroungers has been fueled by politicians characterizing Micronesian migrants as a drain on government resources, in what has been described as a "Compact Impact problem." Having recently received an email from a cousin of mine, Hainrick Panuelo, who is on the U.S. Armed Forces in Afghanistan asking what we are doing about the criticism that are being directed against Micronesians in Hawaii, Guam, and elsewhere in the United States, this issue is very personal to me. Micronesians are on the front lines of war zones, fighting alongside American citizens and defending the same freedoms and rights that Americans value so much. There is a disconnect between the United States government's honoring of our fallen servicemen at the Pohnpei International Airport and the talk of "Compact Impact problems" from American citizens and of-

By **JAIME VERGARA**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



text that in doing so we insure the free flow of maritime traffic in the South China Sea. Duh.

We might be more honest to simply say that we covet the oil underneath South China Sea, and smart business dictates that equitable sharing by those who border into the region in joint ventures, multinational investments and cooperative labor is the preferred choice. Alliances and treaties already exist to make such efforts possible. But Defense trumps State on this one.

A Canadian colleague expressed his preference of American military might around the world rather Chinese and when asked if I think China has a propensity to play that role, I pointed to the historical evidence that China's skirmishes over border disputes in Tibet, Mongolia, and Vietnam are more in defense of traditional border lines rather than expansionist moves to occupy land beyond one's borders. There are no military deployments outside of its borders, and research on laser anti-ballistic missiles, carriers, and anti-carrier technology development is for commerce. The country has a non-interference policy on the affairs of others outside its traditional borders.

A Colorado colleague's rejoinder was telling: "I really do not know much about China, but I am clear, I am afraid of them." Fear is clearly not the beginning of wisdom in this case.

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



sigiente dia ya umalie' yan i maestra. Ha laladde maestra, "Offisio-mu guine para un' famana'gue, ti para un' fan ñgiñgiñge'hau patgon tautau. I lahihu umo'omag diariu yangin malago'". A' Saina.

■■■

'Nai ha pesa na estague' listu umakamu', humanau si Duñg Malas kumonfisat. Finaisen as pale kuantu na Yuus guaha. Mamatkilu un' ratu dispues ilegña, "Dies!" Sinañgane as pale na u ritirague' estake ha tuñgu i dinanche na ineppe.

Gi hiniyoñgña ginen gima' Yuus, umasoda' yan Juan Malas ya ha faisen ni mismu kuestion. Ilegña si Iku, "Dalai hau Duñg, unu ha' na Yuus guaha!" Ensegidas ineppe as Duñg, "Ni ñgai'an, hombre i dies timalagu' si pale ha akseptal!" Ai tatnai mauleg este i che'chu' atrebisau yan atotgante.

■■■

Umasoda' dos pitbetsu. Unu ilegña na esta a' asu iluñña ni malate'ña. Ineppe ni otru na mas gao'ña sensian tomtum sa' ni unu tumuñgu na ti senmalate'-gue'. Amanu mohon 'nai gaige mañamu'?

Letters to the Editor

Where did our real friends go?

As a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia, I have been very saddened to read recent reports of negative attitudes and discrimination directed at our fellow Micronesians by some on the United States. We hear stories about Micronesian schoolchildren being singled out by bullies, Micronesians families being discriminated against by landlords, and Micronesians crowding homeless shel-

ficials alike. I also have personal experience of the compromises we have made in voting to support the national interests of the U.S. at the United Nations at the expense of our relations with other developing nations. So, here I say today, where did our real friends go?






Why such a short memory? Micronesia and the United States have a unique and special relationship, following the U.S. trusteeship of the region. Our Compact of Free Association with the United States permits our citizens to enter, work, and reside in the United States, and grant similar rights to United States citizens wishing to live and work in our islands. While the Compact Impact costs is a mere speck in the totality of the U.S. economy, the immigration provisions of the Compact are a lifeline for small island economies like that of the FSM. Although some may choose to focus on the

See **WHERE** on Page 14

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. South winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 86° ▼ 78°	▲ 86° ▼ 78°	▲ 86° ▼ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 79
Palau	Rain	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Yap	Rain	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Chuuk	Rain	▲ 83 ▼ 76
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 84 ▼ 74
Kosrae	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲ 84 ▼ 77

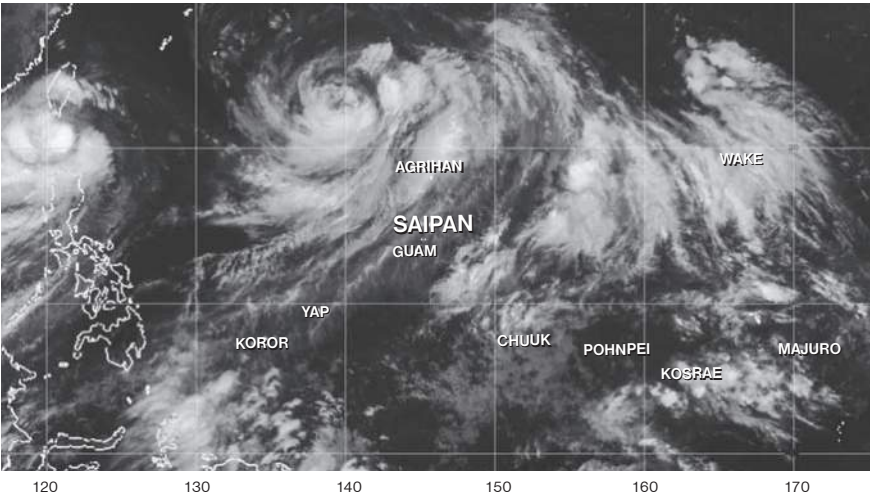
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 62 ▼ 55
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 86 ▼ 67
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲ 92 ▼ 83
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 75
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 51
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 81 ▼ 62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 83 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	▲ 61 ▼ 39
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 89 ▼ 79
New York	Sunny	▲ 80 ▼ 65
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲ 89 ▼ 76
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲ 69 ▼ 52
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲ 78 ▼ 71
Rome	Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 66
Salem	Sunny	▲ 80 ▼ 56
San Francisco	Sunny	▲ 66 ▼ 56
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 70
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85 ▼ 75
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 69

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
1:29 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
6:58 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.1 Feet
1:49 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
8:12 PM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, AUGUST 28, 2011

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Storm Talas (15W) is centered southwest of Iwo To island at 23N140E. Talas is nearly stationary with maximum sustained winds of 60 mph. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are found near the center over Iwo To island between 19N and 25N from 134E to 143E. Similar weather is also seen south and southeast of the center from north of Yap to the Northern CNMI within 75 miles of a line from 19N134E to 15N142E to 22N148E. For more information on Tropical Storm Talas, refer to advisories issued by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ32 PGUM and bulletins issued by JTWC under WMO header WTPN32 PGTW. Diverging upper winds are coupling with converging surface winds to create scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from Minami Torishima southeastward to Wake Island or north of a line from 13N154E to 17N173E. Surface convergence near a ridge axis is generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Koror or south of a line from 8N130E to 2N142E. A surface trough curves northwestward from 4N154E to east of Guam at 15N150E. Scattered showers are occurring near the trough over Chuuk within 155 miles of a line from 13N148E to 7N153E. Upper-level divergence is enhancing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms in the vicinity of trade-wind disturbances over Kosrae and Jaluit atoll within 165 miles of a line from 2N157E to 6N171E and also north of Kwajalein between 10N and 15N from 163E to 174E. Identical conditions are also present near the date line or east of a line from 14N175E to 4N177E.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:04 AM	6:32 PM
Tuesday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Wednesday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Thursday	6:04 AM	6:30 PM
Friday	6:05 AM	6:29 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:49 AM	6:26 PM
Tuesday	6:49 AM	7:12 PM
Wednesday	7:49 AM	7:59 PM
Thursday	8:49 AM	8:47 PM
Friday	9:51 AM	9:38 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 24, 2011

DEPARTURES	ARRIVALS
GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP) C09314 2:20am 2:50am 1, 5	ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM) C09315 5:30am 6:00am 1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP) C09315 4:25am 5:00am 1, 5	ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN) C09314 3:20am 3:55am 1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM) C09317 4:25am 5:15am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 C09315 4:25am 6:00am 1, 5 via ROP C09313 7:55am 8:45am 3, 6 C09313 8:30am 9:20am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09601 12:10pm 1:00pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09603 3:05pm 3:55pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 5K386 5:50pm 6:40pm 4 C09605 6:35pm 7:25pm Daily C09599 9:35pm 10:25pm Daily	GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN C09314 2:20am 3:55am 1, 5 via ROP C09316 2:45am 3:35am 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 5K387 6:30am 7:20am 3, 4, 7 C09596 6:35am 7:25am 3, 6 C09596 7:00am 7:50am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09600 10:05am 10:55am 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 C09602 1:40pm 2:30pm 1, 4, 5, 7 C09604 5:10pm 6:00pm Daily C09606 8:10pm 9:00pm Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO) 5K212 8:20am 10:55am 1, 3, 4, 5, 7	NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN 5K213 11:55am 4:25pm 1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX) OZ119 4:00am 6:40am Daily	OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN OZ120 9:50pm 2:20am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT) DL287 6:05am 8:45am Daily DL297 4:35pm 7:15pm Daily	NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN DL298 10:25am 3:00pm Daily DL288 8:05pm 12:45am+1 Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN) OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1 OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 OZ119 4:00am 11:25am Daily via KIX OZ604 3:30pm 7:00pm 2, 4, 6, 7	SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN OZ603 9:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 OZ120 7:10pm 2:20am+1 Daily via KIX OZ605 7:40pm 1:10am+1 7 OZ605 8:10pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN) 3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6	GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN 3U8645 7:40pm 3:00am+1 1, 5
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG) 3U8648 6:05am 8:30am 1, 5	SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN 3U8647 10:40pm 5:00am+1 4, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL) OZ606/701 2:20am 11:15am 1 via ICN OZ606/701 2:50am 11:15am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09317/191 4:25am 9:45am 3, 6 via GUM DL287/173 6:05am 9:55pm Daily via NRT C09313/183 7:55am 8:40pm 3, 6 via GUM C09603/183 3:05pm 8:40pm 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM C09603/193 3:05pm 10:10pm 2, 5 via GUM-Palau C09599/PR111 9:30pm 7:50am 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN OZ704/603 12:10am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN DL172/288 7:45am 12:35am+1 Daily via NRT OZ702/605 12:45pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ702/605 12:45pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0190/9606 10:55am 9:00pm 3, 6 via GUM C0192/9596 9:55pm 7:25am+1 2, 5 via GUM-Palau C0184/9596 10:55pm 7:50am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM C0184/9596 11:25pm 7:50am+1 2, 5 via GUM PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:25am 5, via GUM PR110/C09596 10:00pm 7:50am 1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG) OZ606/721 2:20am 11:50am 1 via ICN OZ606/721 2:50am 11:50am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN C09603/179 3:05pm 9:25pm 1, 5 via GUM OZ604/749 3:30pm 11:00pm 7 via ICN	HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN OZ724/603 12:30am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN OZ750/603 1:00am 2:30pm 2, 4, 6 via ICN OZ722/605 1:25pm 1:10am+1 7 via ICN OZ722/605 1:25pm 1:40am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN C0180/9596 10:30pm 7:25am+1 5 via GUM C0180/9596 10:30pm 7:50am+1 1 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily	FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily	FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
Guam-Rota				FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily	FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Rota-Saipan							
FRE 170	17:50	18:20	Daily				
Saipan-Rota				Tinian-Saipan			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily	FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 400	10:20	10:45	Daily	FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily	FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily	FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily	FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily	FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily	FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily	FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily	FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily				

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-11-050

REHABILITATION OF SEWER LIFT STATION NO. S-3

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the rehabilitation and upgrade of Sewer Lift Station in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project consists, in general of the rehabilitation and upgrade of Sewer Lift Station No. 3 located in Lower Base, Saipan. The work shall be done not to disrupt the daily operation of the sewer discharge. The work is inclusive of rehabilitation of the wet well, replacement of pumps, guide rails, control panel cleanup of the basins, repair, replacement, rehabilitation of pipeline, pipes, reconditioning of generator, asphalt paving, etc. CUC requires the Project to be completed in **180 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The Bid Package and Scope-of-Work may be picked-up, upon receipt of a deposit from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$ 100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit will be held on **August 19, 2011 at 1:00 PM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.10, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-049, Rehabilitation of Sewer Lift Station No. S-3" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 12, 2011**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 30 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of one *hundred (100%)* percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one *hundred (100%)* percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code. Please refer to other bidding requirements described in Document 00200 - Instructions to Bidders.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 24, 2011** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Commander, Kenneth Esplin, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email kenneth_esplin@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-11-052

PROCUREMENT OF SEWER PUMP TRUCKS (VACTOR)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of Two (2) New Sewer Pump Trucks (Vactor) for CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The trucks will jet and vacuum wastewater from the sewer systems. The vehicles should be small enough to work on Saipan's side streets (secondary roadways). The vehicles should be equipped to work at night, in traffic, without a power source.

The RFP packet and specification will be e-mailed upon request, to all interested Offeror, by the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, during working hours (7:30 AM to 4:00 PM), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-052, Procurement of Sewer Pump Trucks (Vactor)" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on September 15, 2011. Offerors are required to complete all Bid Forms. Offerors may supplement this form as appropriate. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email in PDF format, to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Proposals shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Proposal will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 30 days after submission.

A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC. A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Offerors are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code. Please refer to other bidding requirements described in Document 0P200 - Instructions to Offeror.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on August 26, 2011 to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Commander, Kenneth Esplin, Water/Wastewater Engineer via email kenneth_esplin@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-11-053

SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF POWER DISTRIBUTION MATERIALS

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Power Distribution Materials for the Talafofo Overhead Power Line Extension Project, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Bid Package may be obtained, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash or check, in the amount of \$100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Five (5) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-11-053, Supply & Delivery of Power Distribution Materials", to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 20, 2011** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Payment and Performance Bond of one *hundred (100%)* percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands or otherwise secured in a manner satisfactory to CUC.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods.

Bidders will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) local time on **September 2, 2011** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. Alfredo Palattao, Power Division Engineer via email alfredo_palattao@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - mika_muna@cucgov.net.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-11-055

Lease of Office/Warehouse Space for Power Division, Saipan, CNMI

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC), is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from firms for the lease of office/warehouse spaces for CUC Power Division, Transmission & Distribution Section in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The proposed office space may be situated within or adjacent to the warehouse. The office/warehouse must have a loading dock and parking stalls that can accommodate over-sized heavy equipment (e. g. bucket trucks, augers and backhoes). Additionally, the proposed office space must conform to American Disabilities Act (ADA), OSHA and CNMI Zoning requirements.

The RFP Packet and Specification may be picked-up, upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card, in the amount of \$100.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-proposal Conference will be held on **September 9, 2011 at 1:00 PM (ChST)**, at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-RFP-11-055, Lease of Office/Warehouse Space, Power Division-T&D" to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) local time on September 20, 2011**. Late submission will not be considered.

Selection procedure shall be in full compliance with CUC Procurement Regulations. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) local time on September 12, 2011** to Manuel B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email msablan@cucgov.net; Mr. Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.net and Ms. Janina Muna, CUC Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email mika_muna@cucgov.net. CUC will respond to questions and clarifications, only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director

Cancer survivor emphasizes importance of support systems

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Breast cancer survivor Clarie S. Kosack underlined the three support systems that are important to keep in the minds of not just cancer patients but also their caretakers.

Kosack said that family members—spouses, parents, children, siblings—can give support to cancer patients when they get really sick and can't do very much. "You really need someone there to push you along and encourage you to be positive and not sink into a kind of deep hole—depression."

Friends are another source of encouragement that kept her uplifted during her treatment. "I would send email messages to a group of friends telling them, whether they like it or not, details of what's happening to me so they're informed," said Kosack. "In fact, some of my friends went on and had check-ups because they realized how important it is to have a checkup and find out if they're okay."

Her doctors, Kosack said, became another support group for her as her husband, lawyer Rex Kosack, asked them questions pertaining to her operation and treatment. She said she even became friends with them even after the three surgeries she had.

Kosack compared being a caretaker to the video instruction on what to do in an emergency on an airplane.

"Put on your mask first before you try to help others. If you don't put the mask yourself, you'll pass out halfway. You will not be able to help anybody. It's the same with caretakers. You have to take care of your own mental and physical health before you can take care of the patient," she said.

If an individual becomes a patient, Kosack noted the importance of not wasting time "complaining and crying about your misfortune" and instead maintain a positive mental attitude to speed up healing.

According to Kosack, the 2010 statistics showed that cancer mortality rate is higher in

men than women, not as previously reported in Wednesday's article about her speech at the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting.

"The 2010 statistics showed

that 16 percent of the women with breast cancer would die, and 20 percent of men would die," she corrected.

Kosack, who was diagnosed

with a stage 2 of an aggressive type of cancer, added that there are at least two major organizations that raise money to fund breast cancer research and out-

reach programs: the Susan G. Komen for the Cure, a three-day, 60-mile walk she did in 2009, and the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer.



TEAM SPIRIT AWARD

Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia), Inc. won the Team Spirit award during the 10th Annual Saipan Chamber of Commerce Corporate Challenge. Johnnie Fong, managing director of Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia), Inc., is presented the perpetual trophy by Janice Ada Tenorio, Chamber coordinator, in the presence of Lorie Kamminga, second row, fourth left, human resources director, Coca-Cola, and Richard A. Pierce, Chamber executive director at the Coca-Cola offices in Chalan Laulau, Saipan, Aug. 19. They are joined by the players and corporate challenge committee members of Team Coca-Cola. Coca-Cola will keep the trophy for one year and defend the title in the Team Spirit competition of the 2012 SCC Corporate Challenge. Team Coca-Cola was selected by the judges as the group that best exemplified team spirit with the presentation of decorative and functional recycled Coca-Cola product packaging.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

\$280K contract to probe Tinian terminal design

Guam-based Taniguchi Ruth Makio Architects has bagged the \$280,000 contract for the investigation of the Tinian airport terminal on allegations that its designs are flawed and deficient.

Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero confirmed that the company is expected to submit the results of its evaluation and assessment in the next three weeks, prior to making any recommendation to the board.

The executive director emphasized that TRMA has to fulfill three specific tasks under the contract: assessment, analysis, and new design to address the identified flaws and deficiency in the project.

CPA issued a notice to pro-

ceed to TRMA in April 2010 to conduct an assessment of the alleged deficient terminal design for \$200,000.

This was amended in December 2010 extending the assessment work for additional \$31,000. In April 2011, final amendment was approved to include the analysis and formulation of new design for additional \$49,000.

The completion of the new departure terminal for the Tinian International Airport was delayed after the ports authority received complaints from engineers that its design has potential flaws that could affect the merging of old and new wings to make it one general terminal for the island.

Saipan Tribune learned that

also among the concerns on the new building terminal was that it allegedly was not built to earthquake standards.

CPA earlier pointed out that it has to establish facts about the flawed design before making any decision to go after its contractor, Leo Daly Co.

Currently, the Tinian new terminal building is not operational pending the merger of the departure and arrival terminals.

Leo Daly Co. was the same contractor for the design of the Commonwealth Health Center and was sued by the government for \$10 million over the defective design of the hospital's dialysis unit in 2009. The parties agreed to settle the case in \$2 million last year. (*Moneth G. Deposa*)

let's operate our own grocery stores and restaurants. Let's operate our own beauty shops, repair shops and barber shops. Let's join the construction companies and build our own roads and buildings instead of using nonresident labor. We have given away all the small businesses to outsiders and now cry poverty. Instead we should be operating these businesses ourselves.

People, true growth can only come from within. It does not come from outsiders. Until we begin to till our soil and operate our own businesses, we will always be second-rate citizens in our country. As I repeatedly state: A country is only as strong as its trained, skilled, and hard-working citizens.

All of the get-rich-quick schemes will only destroy us more. We need to become workers in our country. Prosperity does not grow on the backs of others. We must create it. Read the history of successful coun-

tries to learn their secrets. And read the history of nations suffering in poverty and learn what is causing it. As you read the news daily about some countries struggling to survive, the loudest cry is from its citizens searching and begging for work. Yet we cast away our opportunities to work.

How fortunate we are in the CNMI to still have opportunities staring us in the face. But how sad that we cannot see them. Do we truly believe that casinos and cultivation and sales of drugs are our panacea?

What we create with our own hands cannot be taken away. If we are ever to regain a solid economy and create decent jobs, we must create them ourselves. Let us not sell our souls for a few pieces of silver! True growth comes from within, not from without! Let's begin that growth now!

AS OUR DEED IS, SO IS OUR DESTINY!

WHERE

From Page 10

benefits Micronesians receive from the United States, the totality of our relationship is more complex. The Compact gives the United States government veto powers over the nearly one million square miles of Micronesia's water and air space. The U.S. can no more unilaterally create a bottleneck for FSM citizen's right to freely travel and work in the United States, than the government of the Federal States of Micronesia can revisit the defense provisions of the Compact. Aren't the veto powers over the waters and air space of the FSM that the two counties agreed in the Compact a security and strategic lifeline for the U.S.? As a student at the time of the Compact was signed and as a congressman now, I have always believed that is a fair exchange. And so Micronesia shouldn't be looked at as a charity case. I am not denying that the reliance of some Micronesians on social service programs in the U.S. is a valid concern. The reality is that some of our citizens are not prepared to enter the competitive U.S. job market. Every new migrant group faces this kind of hurdle. Our Compact negotiators on both sides early on foresaw this issue and include compensation provisions in the Compact for the U.S. federal government to reimburse U.S. territories or States affected by the kind of Compact Impact we are talking about today. So, why such a short memory? But we are mostly hearing negative reports about the impact of the Compact. By contrast, every time I travel to the U.S. it makes me proud to see just

how many Micronesians are working hard at U.S. airports, in the U.S. tourism, and service industry, in the manufacturing industry, in the fields of Maui and on farms elsewhere in the U.S., in the fast-food industry, and in nursing homes caring for seniors citizens. In fact, a great number of our citizens are productive members of the U.S. workforce contributing to the U.S. economy.

Just among my own circle of friends and acquaintances, I know many FSM citizens who are succeeding in the United States. Len Isotoff from Chuuk is currently the general manager of Matson Navigation Co. for Guam and Micronesia, and the chairman of USO in Guam, a non-profit organization that provides morale and recreational services to members of the U.S. military. A cousin of mine, Walden Weilbacher from the island of Pohnpei, is the head of the secretariat of the Association of Pacific Island Legislatures based in Guam and an active member of the FSM-Guam community. Aren Palik, from the States of Kosrae, is the president and CEO of the Pacific Islands Development Bank base on Guam, which was established in 1989 to help accelerate the economic and social development of member countries. Viladino Raator, from the State of Chuuk, is currently assistant director at the International Program Office at Santa Clara University in Northern California and has sent to more than 105 study abroad program locations in more than 50 countries. Mr. Raator also has a successful home-based web design business. Rocketchun Holden, an FSM citizen from the island of

Pohnpei, employs around forty people in the courier business he started fourteen years ago in Idaho, and another twenty in his expanding chain of sushi restaurants. Mr. Bruce Musrasrik, an FSM citizen from the State of Pohnpei who in June 2007 was promoted to hotel manager for the Ohana Islander Waikiki, which is part of the chain of Ohana Hotels and Resorts.

I also have many well-educated FSM citizen college classmates and friends, too numerous to mention here, living across the United States in gainful employment and contributing to the U.S. economy in their respective professions and skills. Most of these friends have lived in the U.S. for a long time with their families and children. I am encouraged and feel hope for your future as a nation when I see and talk to their well educated children. Together with our real friends in the U.S., we need to do more to promote the positive impact that our relationship has on both our nations. I hope that together we can begin to create a climate where American officials and citizens can focus on the benefits, and not just the costs, of the Compact. One of our founding fathers, the late John Mangefel, said it well during the negotiations when he said, "You cannot put a ship on a canoe, but you can put a canoe on a ship." In other words, when there are challenges to be faced in our relationship, the ship of the United States has more capacity to address them than the FSM canoe.

David W. Panuelo
Congressman, 17th FSM Congress

TRUE

From Page 10

ing our economy? What does the man or woman in the street have to do to become a productive member of our society with these ventures doing it for us? Will it encourage us to learn a trade, to take over our mom and pop businesses? Will the number of people in the food stamp line be reduced? Is this the society we are going to give our children? Or is it another hole in which we keep digging deeper and deeper by asking outsiders to do for us what we should be doing for ourselves?

There are so many ways to regain the economy if we truly wish to. I am willing to stick my neck and my tongue out to discuss the opportunities that await us with anyone who wishes to.

For starters, let's plow our fields and grow food for local sales and for export. Secondly,

Business

Airlines scrap thousands of flights as Irene hits

NEW YORK (AP)—Travelers across the country are facing days of grief as thousands of flights get canceled because of Hurricane Irene.

Airlines are scrapping more than 9,000 flights this weekend from North Carolina to Boston, grounding would-be travelers as Irene travels up the East Coast. There were more than

3,800 cancellations on Saturday alone.

■■■
NEW YORK (AP)—Many stores in New York were closed on Saturday as Hurricane Irene neared, with some posting comical signs like “Blame the weatherman. Not us” and “Evidently ‘The Show Must Go On!’ means

nothing to Irene.” But New York’s shopping districts still were bustling as people piled into any store that was open.

Merci Market in Chelsea had long lines as people bought deli sandwiches and fancier fare. People filed into The Container Store in Midtown to grab plastic boxes so they can use their indoor time constructively to organize. And parents crowded into Toys ‘R’ Us in Times Square to snag toys and games so their children won’t get bored.

“It’s business as usual,” a store official at Harry Win-

ston, the exclusive jewelry retailer, said shortly after the store opened.

■■■
Millions of passengers will be affected by the time the storm finally dies as airlines work to accommodate millions of people on very full flights. The biggest airlines, United Continental Holdings Inc. and Delta Air Lines Inc., canceled thousands of flights each.

All New York City-area airports closed to arriving flights at noon on Saturday, when the city’s public transportation system shut down. United

Continental, the world’s largest airline, suspended operations in the New York area. Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport and Washington Dulles International Airport were both open Saturday afternoon, but most flights had been canceled.

The airports that will be most affected Sunday will be Newark Liberty International and New York’s John F. Kennedy International, both with more than 1,000 cancellations, according to flight tracking service FlightAware. Boston’s Logan and Washington Reagan were next in line.

Airlines have already canceled

a handful of flights on Monday, but all the major U.S. carriers said they would wait to assess damage before canceling more. ExpressJet, which operates regional flights for United and Continental, has the most cancellations for Monday so far at 140.

The storm’s timing was compounding problems. August is a busy month for air travel. The storm is expected to hit the Northeast Saturday night into Sunday, which is the busiest time of the week to fly. Sunday is when many vacationers return from trips and many business travelers leave.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

IMF chief urges US policymakers to help economy

JACKSON HOLE, Wyo. (AP)—The new head of the International Monetary Fund urged U.S. policymakers to take more aggressive steps to stimulate the economy and ease the housing crisis. IMF chief Christine Lagarde, speaking at an economic conference in Jackson Hole Saturday, said the United States should reach a “credible” plan to control government debts in the future, but push for stronger economic growth now. If the economy stagnates, she said, plans to cut government spending in the future will lose credibility. “Who will believe that commitments to cut spending can survive a lengthy stagnation with prolonged unemployment and social dissatisfaction?” she said.

Oil falls on slow economic growth

NEW YORK (AP)—Oil held above \$85 per barrel Friday on news that the economy didn’t grow as fast as previously expected. Slower growth lowers energy demand. The government said Friday that the U.S. economy grew at just 1 percent from April to June, down from previous estimates of 1.3 percent. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke also didn’t propose new steps to stimulate the economy during a speech in Wyoming. Benchmark West Texas Intermediate crude rose 7 cents to \$85.37 per barrel in New York. Brent crude rose 74 cents to \$111.36 in London.

JACKSON HOLE, Wyo. (AP)—Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke has a message for Congress: Do more to stimulate hiring and growth—or risk delaying the economy’s return to full health.

Bernanke held out the prospect Friday that the Fed may take further steps later to help the economy. But he offered no new plans for now.

At a time when Congress has focused on shrinking budget deficits, Bernanke agreed that doing so is important for the

long term. But he warned lawmakers not to “disregard the fragility of the current economic recovery.”

Investors had hoped Bernanke would use his much-anticipated speech at an economic conference in Jackson Hole to unveil some aggressive measure to jolt the economy.


He didn’t. But he did say the Fed’s September policy meeting will be extended to two days, instead of the scheduled one, to permit a “fuller discussion” of the central bank’s options.

“He appears to be saying that the Fed has largely played its part and that the politicians need to step up their game,” said Paul Dales, senior U.S. economist at Capital Economics.


Investors seemed to take comfort from Bernanke’s view that the job market and the economy will return to full health in the long run and the notion that the Fed might provide more help in the future. After initial losses, the Dow Jones industrial average closed up 134 points. Broader stock indexes also gained.

Bernanke’s speech came shortly after the government said the economy grew at a scant 1 percent annual rate in the April-June quarter—even slower than previously estimated.

The economy is still hobbled by a depressed housing market, high oil prices and fears that the European debt crisis will deteriorate into a repeat of the 2008 financial crisis. The Dow has lost about 11 percent of its value since late July on fears that the economy might slip back into recession.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

CUC-RFP-11-036

Gasification or Waste to Energy Generation
ADDENDUM NO. 1
Date: August 26, 2011


The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is issuing the following notice of extension to the deadline for submission of proposals and inquiries to CUC-RFP-11-036:

- **The deadline for submission of proposals has been extended from August 30, 2011 to September 28, 2011;**
- **The deadline for submission of inquiries has been extended to September 19, 2011.**

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “CUC-RFP-11-036 ” Gasification or Waste to Energy Generation” to CUC Procurement & Supply Division, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O.Box 501220, Dandan, Saipan MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 28, 2011**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net and Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net or alternately include a CD with each copy of the submission. Proposals mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.


All inquiries must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on September 19, 2011** to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address msablan@cucgov.net; Ms. Janina Muna, Procurement & Supply Administrative Assistant via email address mika_muna@cucgov.net; and Mr. Wallon Young, Deputy Director, Power Generation/Distribution, via email address wallon59@yahoo.com. CUC will respond to any questions and clarifications only to prospective offerors who have registered with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division for the solicitation.

ABE UTU MALAE
Executive Director



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Second Floor Afetia Square Building, San Antonio, P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone no. (670) 236-0907 or 0911 Facsimile no. (670) 236-0992



CITIZEN JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Almost every job now held by an alien in the Commonwealth will soon be available for interested and qualified U.S. citizens. Jobs currently held by foreign workers will require a new federal permit. The new federal transitional worker program will require employers to hire available qualified U.S. citizens or green card holders before hiring or re-hiring aliens as transitional workers.

Citizens must act to take advantage of this opportunity. Citizens should inquire of employers to see if there is a job, now held by an alien, for which they are qualified. Employers will need to get new federal permits by November 28, 2011. A federal permit to employ an alien can be obtained only if an employer makes reasonable efforts to find qualified U.S. citizens for these jobs and no qualified citizens are available. FAS citizens may also take advantage of this requirement.

If you have problems, the CNMI Department of Labor will help. If you know of a job held by an alien for which you believe you are qualified, you can apply directly to the employer. It is also recommended that you notify the Department of any application that you file directly with an employer. The Department may monitor the application process. The Department also recommends that you provide Labor with a copy of your resume and work interests to be placed in the Department searchable database. Labor will notify the employer and the federal authorities that there are U.S. citizens available for the job. The Department can also assist you in developing a resume and improving your job interview techniques.

Employers are required to consider qualified citizens fairly. If you are refused consideration or believe that you have been rejected unfairly, you can file a complaint with the Department of Labor, and our investigators will examine the employer’s records and summon them for a hearing if necessary.

Don’t miss this opportunity to fill jobs in the Commonwealth with U.S. citizens. We expect the new federal regulations on work permits will be issued soon. Start your job planning now.

Nation

Hurricane Irene drenching Atlantic coast

NEW YORK (AP)—A weakened but still dangerous Hurricane Irene shut down New York and menaced other cities more accustomed to snowstorms than tropical storms as it steamed up the East Coast on Saturday, unloading a foot of rain on North Carolina and Virginia and knocking out power to nearly 1.9 million homes and businesses. At least six people were killed.

New York emptied its streets and subways and waited with an eerie quiet. Washington braced for the onslaught, too, as did Philadelphia, the New Jersey shore and the Boston metropolitan area. Packing wind gusts of 115 mph, the hurricane had an enormous wingspan—500 miles—and threatened a swath of the nation inhabited by 65 million people.

Two million homes and businesses were without power early Sunday as Hurricane Irene slammed into the East Coast and charged north.

Winds of up to 115 miles per hour whipped across the Eastern Seaboard, ripping power lines from poles and snapping trees in half. Hospitals, emergency call centers and other crucial facilities were holding up, but officials said it could get much worse as Irene churns north.

Gasoline supplies were falling as drivers fill up before leaving town or just top off their tanks as a precaution before the storm hits. Pump prices rose about 3 cents per gallon overnight in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Dominion Resources reported outages for more than 900,000 of its customers in Virginia and North Carolina, while Progress Energy reported 190,000 customers



Two men paddle a boat down a street flooded by Hurricane Irene approaches Saturday, Aug. 27, 2011 in Monteo, N.C. Hurricane Irene knocked out power and piers in North Carolina, clobbered Virginia with wind and churned up the coast Saturday to confront cities more accustomed to snowstorms than tropical storms.

without power.

The hurricane stirred up seven-foot waves, and forecasters warned of storm-surge danger on the coasts of Virginia and Delaware, along the Jersey Shore and in New York Harbor and Long Island Sound. Across the Northeast, drenched by rain this summer, the ground is already saturated, raising the risk of flooding as well as the danger of trees falling onto homes and power lines.

Irene made its official landfall just after first light near Cape Lookout, N.C., at the southern end of the Outer Banks, the ribbon of land that bows out into the Atlantic Ocean. While it was too early to assess the full extent of damage, shorefront hotels and houses were lashed with waves, two piers were destroyed and at least one hospital was forced to run on generator power.

"Things are banging against the house," Leon Reasor said as he rode out the storm in the town of Buxton, N.C. "I just hate hurricanes."

Eastern North Carolina got 10 to 14 inches of rain, according to the National Weather Service. Virginia's Hampton Roads area was drenched with at least nine inches, with 16 reported in some spots.

By late Saturday night, the storm had sustained winds of 80 mph, down from 100 mph on Friday. That made it a Category 1, the least threatening on a 1-to-5 scale, and barely stronger than a tropical storm.

Nevertheless, it was still considered highly dangerous, capable of causing ruinous flooding across much of the East Coast with a combination of storm surge, high tides and 6 to 12 inches of rain.

Irene was moving north-

northeast at 16 mph, slightly faster than it had been earlier in the day, giving it somewhat less opportunity to dump on

any particular area. But a typical hurricane would be moving much faster, 25 to 30 mph, said senior hurricane specialist Stacy Stewart of the National Hurricane Center.

Moving slowly over the relatively colder water could weaken the storm, but Stewart said Irene will still likely be a hurricane when it makes landfall in the New York area around noon Sunday.

Pennsylvania Gov. Tom Corbett warned that the state will not necessarily be out of danger once the storm has passed: "The rivers may not crest until Tuesday or Wednesday. This isn't just a 24-hour event."

As of Saturday evening, Irene was hugging the U.S. coastline on a path that could scrape every state along the Eastern Seaboard. Ed Rappaport, deputy director of the National Hurricane Center in Florida, said it would be a "low-end hurricane, high-end tropical storm" by the time it crossed the New York City area late Sunday morning.

The storm is so large that ar-

as far from Irene's center are going to be feeling strong winds and getting large amounts of rain, he said.

"It is a big, windy, rainy event," he said.

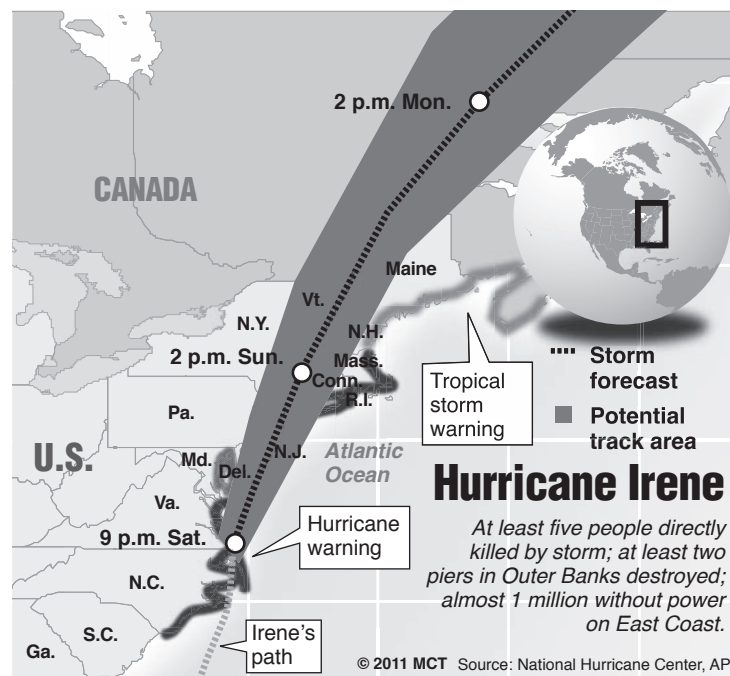
The deaths blamed on Irene included two children, an 11-year-old boy in Virginia killed when a tree crashed through his roof and a North Carolina child who died in a crash at an intersection where traffic lights were out. In addition, a North Carolina man was killed by a flying tree limb, a passenger died when a tree fell on in a car in Virginia, and a surfer and another beachgoer in Florida were killed in heavy waves.

It was the first hurricane to make landfall in the continental United States since 2008, and came almost six years to the day after Katrina ravaged New Orleans on Aug. 29, 2005. Experts guessed that no other hurricane in American history had threatened as many people.

North Carolina Gov. Beverly Perdue said Irene inflicted significant damage along her state's coast, but that some areas were unreachable because of high water or downed power lines. "Folks are cut off in parts of North Carolina, and obviously we're not going to get anybody to do an assessment until it's safe," she said.

At least 2.3 million people were under orders to move to somewhere safer, though it was unclear how many obeyed or, in some cases, how they could.

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta told 6,500 troops from all branches of the military to get ready to pitch in on relief work, and President Barack Obama visited the Federal Emergency Management Agency's command center in Washington and offered moral support.



WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama offered moral support Saturday to federal emergency management workers hunkered down for Hurricane Irene's weekend march up the East Coast and 14,000 active-duty and National Guard troops were put on standby for post-storm relief work.

"Everybody here, you guys are doing a great job," Obama told dozens of workers on a visit to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's command center. Fully activated and operating around the clock, the center helps coordinate the federal response to natural disasters.

Obama was accompanied by FEMA Administrator Craig Fugate, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and John Brennan, his assis-

Obama: Getting through Irene will be 'tough slog'

tant for homeland security.

Defense Secretary Leon Panetta, meanwhile, told 6,500 active-duty troops to be prepared to help after Irene passes. Panetta issued a prepare-to-deploy order for troops from all branches of the military after affected states requested possible help, spokesman George Little said.

The troops could be used for tasks such as search-and-rescue, medical help, engineering, construction and transportation, said Army Lt Col. Elizabeth Robbins, a Pentagon spokeswoman.

At least 7,500 National Guard troops also were prepared to deploy if needed, said Maj. Gen. David Harris, director of operations for the National Guard Bureau.

At the National Response Coordination Center, Obama said he was keeping close watch on the storm. The White House said top aides had updated him on Irene before the visit to FEMA headquarters.

Obama held a conference call Saturday evening with top members of his administration including Vice President Joe Biden, Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Fugate, Brennan and Napolitano. The White House said the president asked to be kept apprised of developments throughout the night and said that he wants the group to reconvene Sunday morning.

At the coordination center, Obama said getting through the storm will be a "tough slog," but he only had praise for the

federal effort so far. He said he was encouraged during conversations Friday with governors and mayors from affected states when he asked what else they needed to prepare.

"There was quiet on the phone and that was a good sign," he told the workers, who sat at computer stations clad in red or blue vests.

"This is still obviously going to be a touch-and-go situation for a lot of communities, but knowing that they've got an outstanding response team like this will make all the difference in the world," he said. "Especially because you all are not going to get any sleep for the next 72 hours or so."

The president shortened his vacation on Martha's Vineyard,

Mass., and returned to Washington late Friday, several hours earlier than planned, because of the storm.

Obama also participated in a daily video conference at FEMA with federal and state emergency management officials. He said flooding and loss of power were the big concerns.

"It sounds like that's going to be an enormous strain on a lot of states," Obama said during a brief portion of the conference that was open to the media.

He said the government is aiming to be as effective in Irene's aftermath as it has been with its preparations before the storm became a threat to the U.S.

"It's going to be a long 72 hours and obviously a lot of

families are going to be affected," the president said.

Separately Saturday, a group of House Republican lawmakers called on the administration to replenish a FEMA disaster relief account that has less than a \$1 billion. The lawmakers, including House Appropriations Committee Chairman Harold Rogers, R-Ky., contend that level of funding will make it harder for the government to provide financial aid to people and communities harmed by natural disasters, including Irene.

A FEMA spokeswoman said the agency will have the money it needs because it has begun restricting funding on longer-term repair and rebuilding projects from prior storms to focus on more urgent and immediate disaster needs.

Asia

Typhoon-triggered landslides kill 6 in PH

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—A slow-moving typhoon made land-fall in the Philippines on Saturday, drenching most of the north and triggering landslides that killed five children and a man digging for gold, officials said.

Typhoon Nanmadol buried a hillside house before dawn, killing a 6-year-old girl and her 5-year-old brother in Pangasinan province's San Fabian township, civil defense officials said.

The young siblings were buried in the mud and other debris for more than two hours before rescuers recovered their bodies, said Milchito Santos, regional civil defense chief for the north-western region of the main Philippine island of Luzon.

In the northern mountain resort city of Baguio, a garbage dump's concrete wall collapsed, burying three shanties under tons of garbage and killing three siblings aged 10 to 15 who were swept about 300 yards (meters) downhill, Mayor Mauricio Domogan said.

Residents near the dump site told rescuers that several others were still buried hours later, including the children's grandmother, Domogan said.

Domogan said a man who was digging for gold in the outskirts of the city was killed by mud and rocks that cascaded from a hillside.

At least four other people were confirmed missing, including a fisherman from Catanduanes province, about 220 miles (350 kilometers) east of the capital, Manila, who failed to return home Thursday during stormy weather related to the typhoon, and another fisherman from La Union province, north



Two boys enjoy the surf due to Typhoon Nanmadol Saturday, Aug. 27, 2011 in Manila, Philippines.

of Manila.

Two men were swept away Saturday by strong river currents in Ilocos Sur province north of La Union, officials said.

Meteorologists said Nanmadol hit land near Cagayan province's Gonzaga township on the northeastern tip of Luzon around 6 a.m. Saturday (2200 GMT Friday). Its maximum winds had weakened 12 hours later to 103 mph (166 kph) with gusts of up to 124 mph (200 kph).

About 200 people who evacuated a coastal village in Gonzaga because storm surges flooded their community were advised later Saturday it was safe to return home after the storm eased, said Norma Talosig, the region's civil defense director.

The typhoon was moving north, toward southern Taiwan, at just 4 mph (7 kph).

In Taiwan, officials warned ships passing through the Bashi Channel south of the island to stay alert.

The U.S. Embassy said the visit to Manila by the U.S. Navy's John C. Stennis Carrier Strike Group, originally scheduled for this weekend, had been postponed because of the bad weather.

It said all tours of the aircraft carrier, as well as the reception on board, had been canceled.

Domestic airlines also canceled more than a dozen flights to areas affected by the typhoon in the northern and central Philippines.

Forecasters said the typhoon's cloud band was 370 miles (600 kilometers) in diameter, and that rains would continue to drench most of northern Luzon Island and generate gale-force winds that would result in rough seas in the northern and central Philippines over the weekend.

Rivers in Cagayan and nearby Isabela province have swelled and the waters have flowed over at least six bridges, halting or slowing traffic in several towns, Talosig said.

lowest village bureaucrat.

5 killed in chemical explosion in South Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Authorities say five people were killed in an explosion during an experiment at a chemical company in southeastern South Korea. An official at Gyeongbuk provincial fire service headquarters said Saturday the explosion took place at TK Chemical company in the city of Gumi. He declined to be named because investigators were still trying to determine details of the blast. Hospital and company officials confirmed that five people were killed while two others were being treated for serious burns.

Ferry sinks in Indonesia, leaving at least 12 dead

KOLAKA, Indonesia (AP)—An overcrowded ferry sank off eastern Indonesia early Saturday, killing at least 12 people, officials said, as search-and-rescue teams scoured the choppy waters. Ninety-three people, including the captain, were rescued, but officials feared others were trapped inside the sunken vessel, said Brig. Gen. Sigit Sudarmanto, a police chief on Sulawesi island. The Windu Karsa, traveling from the town of Bajoe to Kolaka, went down just after midnight in waters off southern Sulawesi as many passengers were sleeping.

World

Tripoli faces severe shortages of food, fuel

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—Rebel fighters pushed increasingly leaderless regime gunmen to the outskirts of Tripoli on Saturday, as severe shortages of fuel, water and electricity paralyzed the battle-scarred capital and the stench of growing piles garbage filled the air. In a call to The Associated Press, the regime's spokesman said Moammar Gadhafi is still in Libya.

The rebels, who now control most of Libya, said they are preparing for an assault on Gadhafi's hometown of Sirte, his last major bastion, if negotiations with tribal leaders there fail. Rebels deployed in Bin Jawad, a town about 100 miles (150 kilometers) east of Sirte, said they are waiting for

NATO to bomb Scud missile launchers and possible weapons warehouses there.

Earlier this month, two Scuds were fired from near Sirte, a first in Libya's 6-month-old civil war.

"What we fear most is chemical weapons and the long-range missiles," said Fadl-Allah Haroun, a rebel commander. Once NATO has cleared the path, rebels will advance toward Sirte, he said.

Gadhafi's whereabouts are unknown, but there has been speculation he may have sought refuge in his tribal area.

Moussa Ibrahim, Gadhafi's chief spokesman, called AP headquarters in New York late Saturday and said Gadhafi is offering to negotiate with the rebels to form a transitional government. In the past, Gadhafi referred to the rebels as "thugs" and "rats."

Ibrahim, identified by his voice, said Gadhafi appointed his son al-Saadi to head the negotiations.

Ibrahim said he saw Gadhafi on Friday but would say only that he is in Libya. Ibrahim said he himself was in Tripoli.

The rebels' information minister, Mahmoud Shammam, said the hunt for the defeated dictator won't hold up efforts to build a new administration and try to get the situation in Libya under control. "We are following him. We are going to find him, but we are not going to wait for everything to find Gadhafi and his sons," he said.

Rebel fighters were also trying to open up the coastal road from Tunisia to Tripoli, a major supply route. Rebels have taken control of the Tunisian-Libyan border crossing on the Mediterranean, but have been unable to ferry goods from Tunisia because regime loyalists were shelling the coastal road near the city of Zwara, about 70 miles (110 kilometers) from Tripoli, on Saturday.

A large ferry chartered by the International Organization for Migration docked in Tripoli's harbor on Saturday, unloading food, water and medical supplies. On Sunday, the vessel is to take aboard 1,200 stranded foreigners, an IOM official said.

While fighting has died down in the city, life remains very difficult.

Iran warns of regional crisis if Syria falls

BEIRUT (AP)—Syria's closest ally, Iran, warned Saturday that a power vacuum in Damascus could spark an unprecedented regional crisis while urging President Bashar Assad to listen to some of his people's "legitimate demands." Thousands of protesters, meanwhile, insisted they will defy tanks and bullets until Assad goes.

The five-month-old uprising in Syria has left Assad with few international allies—with the vital exception of Iran, which the U.S. and other nations say is helping drive the deadly crackdown on dissent.

Saturday's comments by Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Salehi were a subtle shift in tone toward comprise by Tehran, which encouraged the Assad regime to answer to its people while reiterating its support for its key ally. Most previous comments focused on a "foreign conspiracy" driving the unrest.

"Either in Yemen, Syria or any other country, people have some legitimate demands and governments should answer them as soon as possible," Salehi said Saturday, according to the semiofficial ISNA news agency.

But Iran's support for Assad was clear.

"If a vacuum is created in the Syrian ruling system, it will have unprecedented repercussions," he said, adding that Syria has "sensitive neighbors" and that change in the country

could lead to regional crisis.

Syria borders five other nations and controls water supplies to Iraq, Jordan and parts of Israel.

Iran's ties with Syria go far beyond the countries' longstanding friendship in a region dominated by Arab suspicions of Tehran's aims. Syria also is Iran's conduit for aid to powerful anti-Israel proxies Hezbollah in Lebanon and Hamas in the Gaza Strip.

Should Assad's regime fall, it could rob Iran of a loyal Arab partner in a region profoundly realigned by uprisings demanding more freedom and democracy.

In an emergency meeting on Syria that ended early Sunday in Cairo, the Arab League decided to send its leader, Nabil Elaraby, to Damascus to seek a solution. In a statement, the league expressed "grave concern" over the bloodshed in Syria.

More than five months into the uprising against Assad, the conflict has descended into a bloody stalemate.

Human rights groups say Assad's forces have killed more than 2,000 people since the uprising erupted in March, touched off by the wave of revolts sweeping the Arab world. The European Union imposed sanctions Wednesday against an elite unit of Iran's Revolutionary Guard, saying the Quds Force is providing equipment and other support to help crush the revolt.

ASIAN BRIEFS

Nuclear power key topic in close Japan leader race

TOKYO (AP)—A former top diplomat vying to become the next prime minister proposed Saturday that Japan stop building new nuclear power plants after the Fukushima disaster and phase out atomic energy over 40 years. Former Foreign Minister Seiji Maehara took the clearest stand against nuclear power at a news conference where five ruling Democratic party members outlined their policy goals in their campaign to replace Prime Minister Naoto Kan, who announced Friday he is stepping down. The ruling party will vote Monday to pick a new party chief, who will then become prime minister—Japan's sixth in five years.

Indian anti-corruption activist ends hunger strike

NEW DELHI (AP)—A reform activist has ended his 12-day hunger strike after forcing Parliament to throw its weight behind his crusade against corruption in India. The 74-year-old Anna Hazare accepted a glass of juice from a 5-year-old girl Sunday, 12 days after he began his fast. Hazare's protest galvanized an Indian middle class disgusted with the corruption infesting nearly all aspects of public life. Hazare had initially demanded Parliament pass his sweeping proposal to create a powerful anti-corruption ombudsman to police everyone from the prime minister to the

Focus

Before Jobs, Sam Walton and Bill Gates took exits

NEW YORK (AP)—As CEOs, Sam Walton, Bill Gates and Steve Jobs possessed common traits. They were tireless workers, demanding bosses and sticklers for detail. They were visionaries, too, who reshaped their respective industries.

Their companies faced similar challenges when their iconic leaders left the helm. Wal-Mart Stores Inc., post Walton, has grown while carrying on with many of his traditions, including the hokey Wal-Mart cheer. Microsoft Corp. carefully orchestrated Gates' departure over a two-year period to dampen the shock, but has since struggled to innovate. And now Apple Inc. is grappling with how to continue without Jobs, who after battling with health issues announced Wednesday he would step down and Tim Cook would run the company.

Some analysts believe Apple will have a rough time without Jobs. His showmanship is essential since he was selling products that people might want but don't really need, said Charles Fishman, author of "The Wal-Mart Effect."

"Wal-Mart was reliant on Sam's genius and insight—his charisma was a bonus," Fishman said. "The products that Steve Jobs is selling, you need charisma to sell them."

Many companies have foundered without their founder. Starbucks Corp., for instance, had to bring back Howard Schultz to revitalize the brand, and Dell Inc. did the same with Michael Dell. Companies whose net worth is tied up in their CEO, instead of the product, are the most vulnerable. Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc., for example, has made an annual profit only once since 2003, when its namesake leader was charged with securities fraud.

Apple is not quite so tied to its non-eponymous leader, some analysts say. Apple fans tend to want their iPhones, iPods and iPads simply because they think the product is superior—not because of Jobs' dramatic unveilings. So, if Apple can continue to introduce the best products, then it doesn't matter if it's Jobs or someone else is at the helm, they said.

"The products speak for themselves," said Paul Argenti, a professor at Dartmouth College.

One reason that companies like Wal-Mart and Microsoft have endured,

analysts say, is that their founders weren't afraid to surround themselves with other strong leaders. That meant they left behind teams that could function without them. Gates, for instance, "used to get into screaming matches with some of his employees," said James Wallace, the author of two books about Gates, "Hard Drive" and "Overdrive."

"But he was looking for people who were willing to stand up and scream back," Wallace said.

Dave Thomas, the founder of the Wendy's hamburger chain, was constantly preparing Wendy's for the day when he'd leave, which made the transition smooth when he relinquished his daily responsibilities around the late '80s, said Denny Lynch, a company spokesman who traveled with Thomas for 20 years. "He was a man with a 10th grade education who surrounded himself with MBAs," Lynch said. "He understood the things he could do well and the things he couldn't."

How Apple will fare without Jobs remains to be seen. But companies like Microsoft and Wal-Mart can provide some clues.

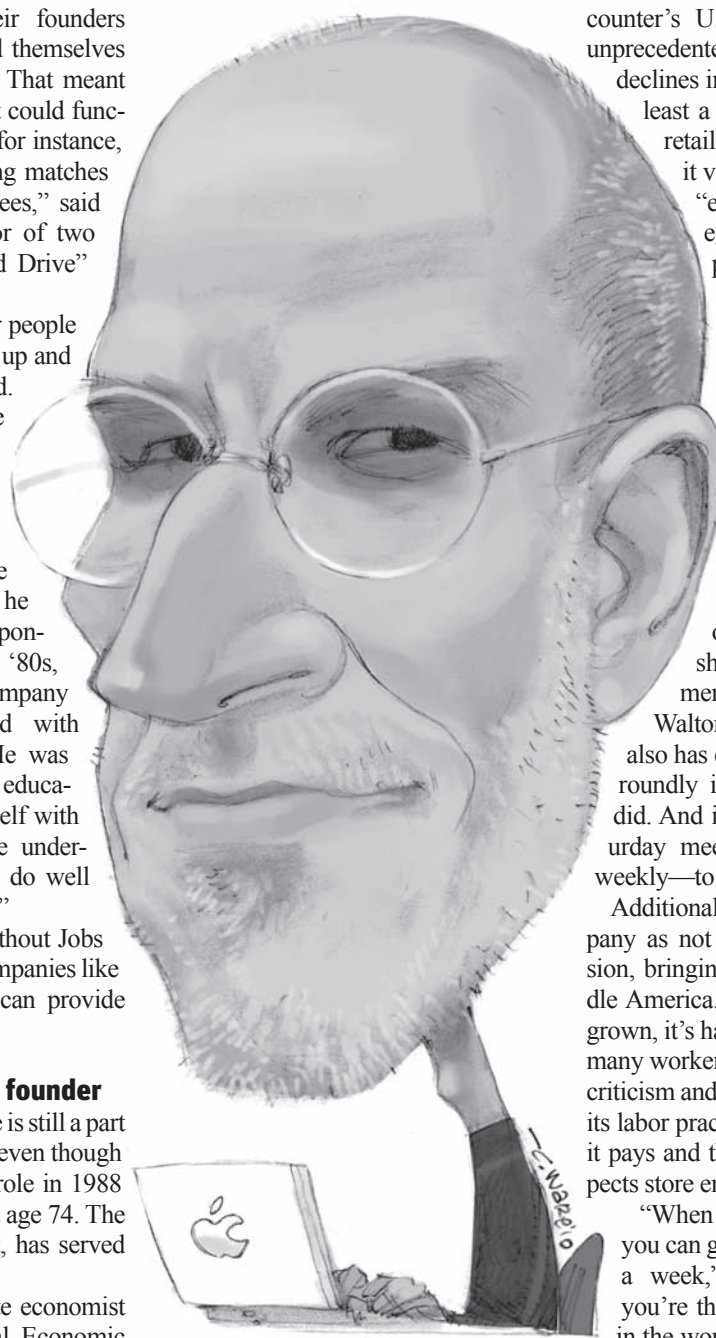
Sam Walton, Wal-Mart founder

Walton's no-frills influence is still a part of the culture at Wal-Mart even though he relinquished the CEO role in 1988 and died four years later at age 74. The strategy, for the most part, has served the company well.

Mike Hicks, a Ball State economist and author of "The Local Economic Impact of Wal-Mart", noted how Wal-Mart has expanded in the past two decades while many other discount chains, such as Kmart and A&P, have struggled. Wal-Mart had nearly \$420 billion in revenue last year, more than seven times the \$55 billion it netted in 1992, when Walton died.

"A lot of companies grow with one visionary guy," Hicks said. "What is striking about Wal-Mart is that it continued to do so shockingly well after his death."

Walton's image can be found throughout the corporate culture. The



original Walton's Five and Dime is now the company's visitor center. It's a shrine to the founder, showing off the 1979 Ford F150 pickup truck he used to drive to work. And although current CEO Mike Duke didn't join the company until 1995, three years after Walton's death, he mentioned the founder's name at least four times at the annual shareholders' meeting in June. He also quoted from Walton's autobiography, "Sam Walton: Made in America."

Wal-Mart officials have learned the price of straying away from some of Walton's key principles. The dis-

counter's U.S. business has had an unprecedented nine straight quarters of declines in revenue at stores open at least a year, a key measure of a retailer's health, in part because it veered away from Walton's "everyday low prices" strategy and got rid of some popular products in an effort to de-clutter stores. Shoppers defected to rivals and now, Wal-Mart is scrambling to re-stock thousands of goods and has gone back to its low pricing model.

Still, Wal-Mart has had to choose which parts of Walton's legacy to keep. It has expanded overseas and tried to reshape itself as an environmental leader, moves that Walton likely never imagined. It also has engaged critics rather than roundly ignoring them, as Walton did. And it has scaled back the Saturday meetings—which were held weekly—to once a month.

Additionally, Walton saw his company as not a corporation but a mission, bringing low-cost goods to middle America. But as the company has grown, it's had to acknowledge that for many workers, it is just a job. It's faced criticism and legal disputes for some of its labor practices, including the wages it pays and the number of hours it expects store employees to work.

"When it's a mission, it means you can get people to work six days a week," Fishman said. "When you're the largest (retail) company in the world you say, 'OK, we want the best talent so we can let people take Saturday off.' There's a little bit of growing up to do."

Bill Gates, Microsoft co-founder

Gates took a long goodbye from Microsoft, the company he co-founded, and left it in the hands of one of his best friends. Gates handed the CEO job to his friend Steve Ballmer in 2000, and stayed on as "chief software architect." Ballmer by then was already a 20-year company veteran and widely considered the heir apparent. In 2006, Gates handed over the software architect role

as well, and said he would leave his daily responsibilities in two years to focus on his philanthropic work.

"One might say there was some sort of Vulcan mind meld between the two in the way they ran the company," Golvin said, referring to Gates and Ballmer. "So it was not a very big transition in some ways."

Ballmer in 2005 had divvied up the company into three divisions, and given broad responsibility and autonomy to the presidents. The company noted this when it announced Gates' planned departure, and said that Gates' leaving was just the next step in a transition process that had been under way for several years.

"It's hard to effectively transition when you've got a big personality who's always been there," said John Long, a retail strategist at consulting firm Kurt Salmon. "You can't say, 'That's no longer yours. I'd appreciate it if you came to meetings less and less.'"

Since Gates' departure, Microsoft has struggled to come up with innovative and successful products, though it's difficult to determine if his leaving is a direct cause. Microsoft, which built its empire by selling software, is trying to figure out how to operate in a world where companies give away software for free. It hasn't kept pace with rival Apple's gadgets like the iPhone and iPad. Microsoft introduced a tablet computer in 2002, but the product was too expensive and too heavy, and as a result, it didn't take off.

"The company has struggled, the stock's flat-lined or gone down," said Charles Golvin, Forrester Research analyst. "They still make a huge amount of money; it's a very profitable business, but they haven't grown."

Microsoft's revenue grew 12 percent to about \$70 billion in the most recent fiscal year, which ended June 30. Profit rose by 23 percent. But the stock price has fallen from the \$40s, where it stayed through most of 1999, to about \$25.

"Some people may criticize that Microsoft doesn't have the vision it used to; some people may say it's not the same since Bill left," said Wes Miller, an analyst at Directions on Microsoft and a Microsoft employee from 1997 to 2004. "But from an earnings perspective, they're doing quite well."

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—Steve Jobs has been Apple's most recognizable personality, but much of its cachet comes from its clean, inviting designs. For that, Apple can credit its head designer, Jonathan Ive.

Ive, a self-effacing 44-year-old Brit, helped Jobs bring Apple back from the brink of financial ruin with the whimsical iMac computer, whose original models came in bright colors at a time when bland shades dominated the PC world. He later helped transform Apple into a consumer electronics powerhouse and the envy of Silicon Valley with the iPod, the iPhone and, most recently, the iPad.

In the wake of Jobs' resignation as CEO, Apple must show that it can keep churning out head-turning products even without its charismatic leader. Apple's chief operating offi-

Behind Apple's products is longtime designer Ive

cer, Tim Cook, is now CEO, taking on the role of Apple's public face.

But in many ways the real pressure will fall on Ive to make sure Apple continues its string of gadget successes.

Ive, known to his friends as "Jony," has led Apple's design team since the mid-'90s. Working closely with Jobs, Ive has built a strong legacy at Apple, ushering in products that are sleek and stylish, with rounded corners, few buttons, brushed aluminum surfaces and plenty of slick glass.

Apple's pride in this work is evident even in the packaging: Open up any iPhone box, for example, and see

Apple proudly proclaim, "Designed by Apple in California." Six of Ive's works, including the original iPod, are even part of the collection at the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

People who have worked with Ive describe him as humble and sweet, quiet and shy, but also confident, hard-working and brilliant. Paola Antonelli, senior curator of architecture and design for MoMA, said she knows "hardly anybody that is so universally loved and admired" as Ive.

"Products have to be designed better now for people to buy them because of Jony Ive and Steve Jobs and Apple,"

Antonelli said. "All of a sudden people have gotten used to elegance and beauty, and there's no going back."

Design, as well as software that makes the gadgets easy to use, is a crucial part of setting Apple products apart from those of its rivals. Apple didn't make the first music player or smartphone, but it blew past rivals by making ones that looked cool and worked well.

Ive started out far from Apple Inc.'s Cupertino headquarters. He grew up outside London and studied design at Newcastle Polytechnic (now Northumbria University) in Newcastle, England. After finishing school, he co-founded a London-based design company called Tangerine. There,

he designed a range of products including combs and power tools. It was through Tangerine that he first got to work with Apple.

In 1992, while Jobs was still in the midst of a 12-year exile from Apple, the company's design chief at the time, Robert Brunner, hired Ive as a senior designer. Thomas Meyerhoffer, who worked under Ive at Apple in the '90s, believes Ive came because he understood Apple was different from other computer companies.

"He came to Apple to take that even further," Meyerhoffer said.

And Ive did, but not right away. Ive quickly became a leader, working as the creative studio manager and helping to build Apple's design team during a period in which the company struggled to innovate.



Ive

Health & Fitness

Autism risks for siblings are higher than thought

By **LINDSEY TANNER**
AP MEDICAL WRITER

CHICAGO (AP)—A new study suggests nearly one in five children with an autistic older sibling will develop the disorder too—a rate much higher than previously thought.

Researchers followed 664 infants who had at least one older brother or sister with autism. Overall, 132 infants or about 19 percent ended up with an autism diagnosis, too, by their third birthdays. Previous smaller or less diverse studies reported a prevalence of between 3 percent and 14 percent.

“We were all a bit surprised and taken aback about how high it is,” said lead author Sally Ozonoff, a psychiatry and behavioral sciences professor with the Mind Institute at the University of California at Davis.

The highest rates were in infants who had at least two older siblings with autism—32 percent of them also developed autism. Also, among boys with autistic siblings—26 percent developed autism versus 9 percent of girls. Autism is already known to be more common in boys.

The study involved 12 U.S. and Canadian sites and was published online Monday in



Kathleen Lanese of Kings Park, N.Y., poses with her two autistic sons Brendan, 14, right and Kevin, 10 at her sister-in-law's home on Thursday, Aug. 11, 2011, in Oyster Bay, N.Y.

Pediatrics. Earlier studies were more local or involved fewer sites.

Ozonoff said parents of autistic children often ask her, “How likely am I to have another child” with autism? She said her study provides a more up-to-date answer.

However, Ozonoff noted that 80 percent of siblings studied did not develop autism, and that the prevalence rate was an average. It may be different for each family, depending on other risk

factors they may face.

Autism has no known cause but experts believe that genetics and external influences are involved. Research is examining whether these could include infections, pollution and other non-inherited problems. Ozonoff noted that siblings often are exposed to similar outside influences, which could partly explain the study results.

Infants in the study were enrolled before they showed any signs of autism, such as

poor eye contact and little social interaction.

The study is an important addition to autism research and “has critical implications for families who are deciding whether they’ll have another child,” said Catherine Lord, director of the Institute for Brain Development at New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center. Lord was not involved in the study.

Kathleen Lanese of Kings Park, N.Y., says having one son with autism didn’t make her think twice about trying to have another child, even though she knew there was a chance the second would be

affected, too.

“We wanted another child and we were going to take whoever we got,” said Lanese, who was not involved in the study. Still, when her younger son was a baby, she says she “watched him like a hawk” for autism signs. He was diagnosed with autism at 16 months, earlier than her older boy.

Ozonoff said the study should prompt families and their children’s doctors to be vigilant with infants whose older siblings have autism. Early diagnosis is important because experts say behavioral treatment has the best chance of working if started early.

“Pediatricians need to listen and make a very focused plan for how to monitor those things, rather than taking a wait-and-see attitude” toward children with autistic siblings, Ozonoff said.

Alycia Halladay, a research director at the advocacy group Autism Speaks, said the study provides a more robust, accurate prevalence estimate than previous studies, and strengthens the idea that family history is a risk factor.

Her group, the National Institutes of Health and the Canadian Institute for Health Research are among those who paid for the study.

In Celebration of His New Life

Patrick Manuel Acosta Blas

*Born to life on September 8, 1985,
was called to his eternal rest in the grace
of our Lord on August 23, 2011.*

His memories will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Joshlyn “Menchang” Lieto Blas

Son: Patricio Manuel Acosta Blas II

Daughter: Wynona Julene Lieto Blas

Parents in-Law: William and Julie Tudela Lieto

Sisters and Brothers in-law: Tiara Evangelista Lieto and children

Annjuliet L. and Joseph Lifofoi and children

Joelyn L. and Raphael Magofna and children

Jadaine L. and Justin Sablan and children

Wilma Jean Tudela Lieto

Reared Parents: Lucy Ann T. and Nick C. Sablan

Special Cousin: Antonia B. Manibusan / James Sablan and Children

*He will also be dearly missed by numerous aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces,
nephews, best friends, and co-workers.*

In His new life, He now joins his:

Mother: Soledad Acosta Blas

Father: Jesus Basa Blas

Brother: Joseph Acosta Blas

Brother In-Law: Wilgene Tudela Lieto

**Rosary is being said nightly at the San Vicente Church at 5:30pm,
followed by Mass of Intentions at 6:00pm.**

On Wednesday, August 31, 2011, our beloved’s remains will be escorted from Borja Funeral Home to San Vicente Church at 7:30am for viewing and last respects. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 1:00pm, immediately followed by interment service at the Tanapag Public Cemetery.

*Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu’us Ma’ase
for your thoughts, prayers, and comforting words.*

From Menchang, Patricio, Wynona, and the entire family.

Medicare prescription premiums won’t rise in 2012

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Obama administration had good news for seniors Thursday: The average monthly premium for Medicare’s popular prescription program won’t go up next year.

Many seniors may even see a dip in their costs, particularly if they shop around during open enrollment season this fall.

Officials credited growing use of generics and competition within the program, which is delivered through private insurance companies. Medicare also expects to share in a coming bonanza as a number of top-selling brand name drugs get generic competition in the next year or so.

The Health and Human Services department projects the average premium for 2012 will be about \$30 a month, hardly changed from \$30.76 this year.

Since the 2012 estimate is

an average, it does not reflect premiums for every individual. Some seniors may see an increase. But they will have options. Plenty of bargains should be available during open enrollment season.

Officials also said 900,000 Medicare beneficiaries with high drug costs have received a 50 percent discount on brand name drugs this year, a benefit of President Barack Obama’s health care law. That number will keep growing throughout the year as more people fall into the coverage gap known as the doughnut hole. The health care law gradually closes the gap.

Medicare covers about 47 million seniors and disabled people. Overall, about 9 in 10 beneficiaries have some kind of prescription drug plan. Some still get benefits through their

former employers. But more than half rely on the prescription program, also known as Part D.

A recent study published by the American Medical Association journal found savings for the government as well as seniors from the prescription program, offsetting some of its cost to taxpayers.

It estimated that the drug benefit saved Medicare an average of \$1,200 a year for each senior who had no coverage or inadequate benefits before the program was launched in 2006. Most of that came from reduced hospital and nursing home costs, as prescriptions helped to keep people healthier.

That translates into an average annual savings of \$12 billion, the study said, offsetting over 20 percent of the \$55 billion taxpayers spend on the program.

Life & Style

Director Sofia Coppola weds in southern Italy

ROME (AP)—Filmmaker Sofia Coppola went back to her roots for her wedding Saturday, marrying rocker Thomas Mars in the remote, southern Italian town where her great-grandfather was born.

Coppola's famous filmmaker father, Francis Ford Coppola, escorted the 40-year-old Sofia down the aisle to a waiting Mars, lead singer of the French band Phoenix and the father of their two young daughters.

The early evening ceremony took place in the garden of the palazzo that the elder Coppola renovated in the historic center of Bernalda, a city near the Gulf of Taranto in Italy's Basilicata region, according to Mayor Leonardo Chiruzzi who performed the ceremony.

"Everything went well," Chiruzzi told The Associated Press afterwards. "It was simple, calm, in the garden."

The bride wore a sheer, lavender tulle dress and Mars a gray suit with a flower in the lapel. The bride and her father were preceded down the aisle by the couple's older daughter and other children. After Coppola and Mars said their "si" in the civil service, she tossed her bouquet and a friend caught it, Chiruzzi said.

The newlyweds and the father of the bride, wearing a white linen suit and pink shirt, then popped out of the palazzo briefly to greet onlookers. She was holding a glass of bubbly.

It's her second marriage; she divorced fellow filmmaker Spike Jonze in 2003.

Bernalda, near the UNESCO-recognized troglodyte settlement of Matera to the north, was home to Francis Ford Coppola's grandfather, Agostino, before he emigrated to the United States at the turn of the last century.

Chiruzzi said the wedding was simple by design.

"If they wanted to do a Hollywood wedding, they wouldn't have done it



In this June 6, 2011 photo, Sofia Coppola attends the 2011 CFDA Fashion Awards at Alice Tully Hall in New York.

here," Chiruzzi said by phone on the eve of the nuptials. "(They) chose to do it here because it's here—it's here that is beautiful."

He stressed the low-key nature of the event. The ANSA news agency said

guests included Johnny Depp and Talia Shire, the bride's aunt, who is best known for her roles in her brother's "The Godfather" films and as Sylvester Stallone's girlfriend Adrian in "Rocky."

A dinner was planned to be followed

by cake, made to serve about 100 people. It was a simple vanilla cake with chantilly cream, decorated with white flowers and prepared by the chef at the Magna Grecia hotel in Bernalda, said Biagio Loiudice, who runs the hotel.

"They came in last week and chose the cake," he said by telephone. "It's not high, very simple. They preferred simplicity."

Sofia Coppola's 2003 film "Lost in Translation" won the filmmaker an Academy Award for original screenplay and made her the third woman ever nominated for a directing Oscar. Her 2010 film "Somewhere," about an actor who sees the emptiness of his existence through the eyes of his child, won the top Golden Lion prize at the Venice film festival last year.

The elder Coppola has become something of a spokesman for Basilicata, a mostly poor region located on the "arch" of boot-shaped Italy. In a promotional video for the area, he reminisced about his grandfather's tales about Bernalda and extolled Basilicata's unspoiled—and largely unknown—beauty and culture.

He is planning on turning the Bernalda palazzo where the wedding took place, "Palazzo Margherita," into a luxury boutique hotel.

Nearby Matera is on UNESCO's world heritage list, prized as an example of a traditional human settlement that dates from Palaeolithic times. The famous sassi, caves dug into the soft tufa rock that gives Matera the look of ancient Jerusalem, were used as primitive, one-room homes and remain a tourist draw today.

Some have been renovated and turned into trendy hotels, but the area remains so ancient-looking that Mel Gibson shot much of "The Passion of the Christ" there.

With Irene bearing down, Broadway shuts down

NEW YORK (AP)—Theater producers in New York decided not to mess with Hurricane Irene's drama and canceled weekend shows both on and off-Broadway.

All Broadway musicals and plays have been canceled for Saturday and Sunday, as well as "Zarkana" by Cirque du Soleil at Radio City Music Hall and Lincoln Center Theater's "War Horse."

It's the first time Broadway has shut down for an emergency since the blackout in 2003.

When New York officials announced that the city's transit system will shut down beginning Saturday afternoon, theater closures became unavoidable. Refunds or exchanges were being made.

"The safety and security of theatergoers and employees is everyone's primary concern," Paul Libin, chairman of the national trade association the Broadway League, said in a statement.

Other venues announced closings, including 59E59 Theaters and the off-Broadway complex New World Stages, which is home to "Rent," "Avenue Q" and "Million Dollar Quartet."

Organizers of The New York International Fringe Festival, which has been offering almost 200 small shows downtown over the past few weeks, also canceled all events Saturday and Sunday, including its closing night party.

Irene is expected to hit North Carolina's coast sometime Saturday and track up the East Coast. The National Weather Service has issued a hurricane watch for New York City, and the storm is expected to come closest to the city sometime Sunday.

Autopsy: 'Treme' actor pulled from river drowned

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—An autopsy conducted on an actor from the HBO series "Treme," and whose body was pulled from the Mississippi River in New Orleans, found that he drowned.

Forty-four-year-old Michael Showers played a police officer in the series. Authorities say his body was found in the river on Wednesday after it was spotted by the captain of the riverboat Natchez.

John Gagliano, chief investigator for the Orleans Parish Coroner's Office, said Friday that there was no trauma to Showers' body. He says results from toxicology tests for drugs and alcohol will take about three weeks.

Showers also acted in "The Vampire Diaries," "Traffic," and the new action thriller "Colombiana."

China bars some Lady Gaga hits from download sites

BEIJING (AP)—China's Ministry of Culture has ordered music download sites to delete songs by Lady Gaga, Katy Perry, the Backstreet Boys and other pop stars within two weeks or face punishment.

The ministry posted a list of 100 songs—including Lady Gaga's "Judas" and Perry's "Last Friday Night"—that had to be purged from the Chinese web because they had never been submitted for mandatory government screening.

Six Lady Gaga songs in all were on the list, all from her latest album. The 12-year-old ballad "I Want It That Way" by the Backstreet Boys was also targeted. Dozens of Hong Kong and Taiwanese pop songs and a few Western hits were listed as well.

The ministry said the rule was meant to preserve China's "national cultural security."

Sites were told in the Aug. 19 announcement posted to the ministry's website that they had until Sept. 15 to carry out "self-correction" and delete the songs. It said violators would be punished, but didn't outline the penalties they would face.

It didn't say that the listed songs were objectionable, just that they had not been approved for distribution.

The Chinese government carefully screens the content of imported entertainment content for political



In this music video image released by Interscope Records, a scene from Lady Gaga's "Born This Way" video is shown.

messages or commentary that runs contrary to its official line.

Foreign music acts in particular are believed to receive special scrutiny after Icelandic singer Bjork shouted "Tibet!" during a 2008 concert in Shanghai af-

ter performing a song titled "Declare Independence."

China claims Tibet has always been part of its territory, but many Tibetans say the Himalayan region was virtually independent for centuries and that Beijing's tight control is draining them of their culture and identity.

Producer ordered to pay \$3M in harassment suit

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A Los Angeles jury has ordered film producer Jon Peters to pay his former assistant more than \$3 million after finding she was subjected to sexual harassment and a

hostile work environment.

The jury on Friday awarded Shelly Morita \$822,000 in compensatory damages and \$2.5 million in punitive damages.

City News Service reports that Peters'

attorneys plan to appeal the verdict.

Morita sued Peters five years ago, alleging he fondled her at his Malibu home and climbed into bed with her in an Australian hotel during the 2005 filming of "Superman

Returns." She claimed that she couldn't find work in Hollywood after suing Peters because of his pull in the industry.

Peters produced several acclaimed films, including "A Star Is Born," "Flashdance," "The Color Purple," "Batman" and "Rain Man."

Mel Gibson and ex-girlfriend reach settlement

LOS ANGELES (AP)—After sparring for more than a year, Mel Gibson and his ex-girlfriend have reached a financial and custody settlement of a bitter dispute that spawned a criminal case and left the Academy Award winner's reputation damaged.

Los Angeles Superior Court officials said in a statement late Friday that Gibson and Russian musician Oksana Grigorieva had reached an agreement after days of negotiation. Terms and conditions of the settlement were not announced, but a hearing Wednesday will be held to discuss the financial terms.

The equally contentious issue of custody of the couple's infant daughter will be handled in closed session, the court announced.

Gibson's spokesman Alan Nierob confirmed the settlement and said the actor-director appreciated the judge's help in mediating the case.

Grigorieva spokesman Stephen Jaffe declined comment.

The former couple have been at odds for more than a year over custody and financial issues in a mostly-secret court proceeding in Los Angeles. In June 2010, Gibson's attorney Stephen Kolodny said that his client had provided his ex-girlfriend with a four-bedroom, multimillion



Gibson



Grogorieva

dollar home, vehicle and tens of thousands of dollars a month.

It is unclear exactly how much Grigorieva has been receiving since then.

The "Braveheart" star was charged with misdemeanor domestic battery as a result of a January 2010 fight with Grigorieva and pleaded no contest earlier this year. The actor-director entered his plea in a way in which he admitted no guilt, and Grigorieva cannot use the outcome in a civil case.

He was ordered to undergo counseling and recently completed his community service by volunteering with a children's

charity in Guatemala.

The case became an international story after recordings of racist and sexist rants by Gibson were leaked to the celebrity website RadarOnline.com. Sheriff's officials took possession of the recordings as part of their criminal investigation, but Grigorieva's attorney announced in May that he would no longer seek to use them against the former Hollywood superstar in the custody case.

The coming days could prove crucial for Gibson to resolve some of the messiness of his personal life in recent years.

Gibson, 55, recently reached

a divorce settlement with his estranged wife, Robyn, and his attorney announced in June that the case should be finalized by Tuesday.

Robyn Gibson filed to end her nearly 28 year marriage in April 2009, just months before Grigorieva gave birth. The divorce has been a mostly private affair, in sharp contrast to Gibson's fight with Grigorieva.

Gibson announced Grigorieva's pregnancy to Jay Leno on "The Tonight Show," but their relationship sputtered after the girl's birth.

In recent months, both have appeared multiple times in court for hearings and meetings with a judge handling their case. Gibson has not publicly spoken about the case.

The leaked conversations recorded by Grigorieva were the latest scandal for Gibson, who was arrested in 2006 for drunken driving; a deputy's report revealed he made a series of anti-Semitic and sexist slurs while in custody.

Despite positive reviews for his performance as a deeply depressed man who can only communicate through a puppet, Gibson's return to the big screen in "The Beaver" earlier this year failed to catch on with audiences.

Source: Kris Jenner, Sheryl Underwood join 'Talk'

NEW YORK (AP)—A person familiar with the CBS daytime show "The Talk" has told The Associated Press the show is adding two new faces to its second season.

The person said Kris Jenner, reality TV personality and mother of the Kardashians, will fill in for Sharon Osbourne for two weeks at the start of the new season and could be a regular fill-on for Osbourne. The other newcomer will be comedian and radio personality Sheryl Underwood. She will co-host the show for the first two weeks and could stay on. The person was not authorized to discuss the cast and spoke on condition of anonymity.

"The Talk" debuts its second season Sept. 6 with returning hosts Osbourne, Julie Chen and Sara Gilbert.

Leah Remini and Holly Robinson Peete left the show after the first season.

Jenner has also been lined up to co-host the fourth hour of NBC's "Today" for one morning alongside host Hoda Kotb in October, according to a network spokeswoman.

And Jenner's memoir is expected in November, her representative announced Friday. To be released by Karen Hunter Publishing, an imprint of Simon & Schuster, the as-yet-untitled book will discuss her family. (Jenner is the mother of reality TV stars Kourtney, Kim, Khloe, Robert Jr., Kendall and Kyle). It also will deal with her work in television (she is the executive producer of the Kardashian shows).

Sick dinner guest puzzled by hosts' silent response

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: I was at a party where guests were exposed to salmonella that was on one of the vegetables served as an appetizer. At least 11 people were affected by it. The hosts talked to only one or two of the people who were affected. Some of us were concerned that the hosts didn't contact everyone and warn them of what had happened.

Don't you think they had a responsibility to contact all their guests and advise them of the problem, and even express concern and apologies?

SICK IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR SICK: Yes, I do. A responsible host would not only call to advise the guests and apologize to anyone who was affected, but also contact the manager of the store at which the vegetables were purchased. If the store isn't put on notice, it can't prevent other customers from buying contaminated produce.

Now that you know how little consideration your hosts had for the welfare of their guests, reconsider accepting another of their dinner invitations.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: "Amy" and I have been married seven years. I used to enjoy family gatherings with my parents and brothers, but I am finding them stressful. Amy always seems to have an issue with "time." My family is easygoing and sometimes late for various reasons. Amy doesn't understand why this happens. She believes the timelines are being amended to suit one of my brothers and his family. Their tardiness bothers Amy, and she asked me to talk to my family members about it.

I did, and they don't see a problem. This is the way our family has always been. Amy stresses me out (high blood pressure runs on the male side of my family) when I should be enjoying these gatherings. By the way, my wife is an only child and has no extended family. She has never experienced what larger families go through. Should she ease off, or should I ask my loved ones to change their ways?

PRESSURED IN TORONTO

DEAR PRESSURED: You said you have already talked to your family about this. Because this is the way your family has always functioned, it is highly unlikely that they're going to change now. Sometimes you have to accept family warts and all, and this appears to be one of them. If Amy's complaining is truly causing your blood pressure to spike, your physician should be telling her to lower the "pressure" she's putting on you.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I recently got out of a two-year relationship. He broke up with me without explanation. I'm not over him and it still hurts, but at the same time I am starting to have feelings for someone else. The problem is I'm afraid he's just the "rebound" guy. What should I do?

READY TO MOVE ON IN OHIO

DEAR READY TO MOVE ON: You're still healing -- and being attracted to someone other than the man who dumped you shows you are progressing. That's a good sign. Rather than worry about whether this relationship will be "for keeps," take it a step at a time. Enjoy his company, let him enjoy yours, and be thankful the romance that didn't work out didn't take up more of your time. A person -- male or female -- who would end a two-year relationship the way your ex-boyfriend did wasn't worth much in the first place.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby -- Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Actress Melissa Gilbert files for divorce in LA



In this Dec. 11, 2010 file photo, actor Bruce Boxleitner, right, and actress Melissa Gilbert arrive at the premiere of the feature film "Tron: Legacy" in Los Angeles.

AP

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Court records show Melissa Gilbert has filed for divorce after 16 years of marriage to fellow actor Bruce Boxleitner. The former "Little House on the Prairie" star cited irreconcilable differences in her divorce petition, which was filed Monday

in Los Angeles.

The filing states the couple separated in January, shortly after their 16th wedding anniversary.

Gilbert served two terms as president of the Screen Actor's Guild, and Boxleitner has appeared in numerous movies and television series, includ-

ing "Babylon 5" and both "Tron" films.

The couple has a 15-year-old son together.

Gilbert, who played Laura Ingalls on "Little House," is seeking joint custody of their son and no spousal support from Boxleitner.

Jeter and Kelly split up



Jeter



Kelly

NEW YORK (AP)—Derek Jeter is a free agent again.

After three years together, the Yankees captain has broken up with Minka Kelly, the actress' representative told The Associated Press.

Jeter, in Baltimore for a series against the Orioles, would not comment.

Kelly was a frequent visitor to Yankee Stadium while the two were dating.

In a rare public display of their relationship, Kelly was included in the HBO documentary on Jeter's chase for 3,000 hits, "Derek Jeter 3K."

Kelly is best known for her role in "Friday Night Lights" and is now filming ABC's remake of "Charlie's Angels."

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CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**INVITATION TO BID
ITB11-DPW/ED-133**

SUBMISSION DATE: SEPTEMBER 20, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF A NEW BOILER SYSTEM FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER”

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP ON OR AFTER AUGUST 22, 2011 AT THE OFFICE OF THE CNMI ARRA STATE LEAD LOCATED ON THE THIRD (3) FLOOR OF THE MARIANAS BUSINESS PLAZA OFFICE #315, SUSUPE OR REQUESTED VIA E-MAIL TO chc_boiler@recovery.gov.mp.

A MANDATORY SITE INSPECTION FOR INTERESTED PERSONS, FIRMS AND CORPORATIONS WILL BE HELD AT THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER – OLD WING ON **SEPTEMBER 06, 2011 STARTING AT 10:00 A.M., CHAMORRO STANDARD TIME (CHST).**

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS ITB MUST BE SUBMITTED VIA E-MAIL TO chc_boiler@recovery.gov.mp **NO LATER THAN 4:30 P.M., LOCAL TIME, SEPTEMBER 09, 2011.**

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/S/ MARTIN C. SABLAN
SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

/S/ MICHAEL J. ADA
CNMI ARRA LEAD

/S/ THELMA B. INOS
DIRECTOR OF ENERGY

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP11-DCCA/HPO-119**

SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

“TO CONDUCT INTENSIVE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF SABANETTAN I TORU, SAIPAN, CNMI FOR THE OFFICE OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION”

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DRIVE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL INQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO MR. MELVIN L.O. FAISAO, SECRETARY OF DC&CAAT (670) 664-2574/76 OR FAX TO (670) 664-2547 OR E-MAIL TO mlf65@gmail.com NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31, 2011. CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

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/S/ MELVIN L.O. FAISAO
SECRETARY OF DC&CA

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP11-DEQ-112**

SUBMISSION: SEPTEMBER 13, 2011 • TIME: 2:00 P.M.

“PERFORMANCE OF 40-HOUR HAZARDOUS WASTE OPERATIONS EMERGENCY RESPONSE (HAZWOPER) “TRAIN THE TRAINER” COURSE FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY”

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT IS AVAILABLE ON OR AFTER AUGUST 15, 2011 AT THE DEQ OFFICE OR CAN BE RECEIVED ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO raymasga@deq.gov.mp

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS PROJECT MAY BE FAXED TO MR. RAY MASGA, MANAGER, SITE ASSESSMENT AND REMEDIATION BRANCH AT (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL TO raymasga@deq.gov.mp NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **AUGUST 31, 2011.**

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/S/ FRANK M RABAULIMAN
DIRECTOR, DEQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

**Northern Mariana Islands
RETIREMENT FUND**

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WORKERS' COMPENSATION COMMISSION
GROUP HEALTH AND LIFE INSURANCE TRUST FUND

FINANCIAL AUDITS
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS NO. RF11-005
AMENDMENT NO. 1

OPENING DATE: August 22, 2011 CLOSING DATE: September 21, 2011

The Board of Trustees of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund is soliciting sealed proposals to perform a financial audit of the Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund (NMIRF), Workers' Compensation Commission (WCC), and Group Health and Life Insurance Trust Fund (GHLITF) for the fiscal years ending September 30, 2011 and 2012. To receive the RFP package, you may mail, fax or e-mail your request to:

Richard S. Villagomez, Administrator
Northern Mariana Islands Retirement Fund
P.O. Box 501247 CK
Saipan, MP 96950-1247
Fax No. 670-664-8080
E-mail: administrator01@nmiretirement.com

There will be a pre-proposal conference on Tuesday, August 30, 2011 at 9:00 am in the Fund Conference Room, Capitol Hill Saipan. Questions regarding the project must be submitted in writing to Richard S. Villagomez, Administrator, Fax No. (670) 664-8080 or emailed to administrator01@nmiretirement.com no later than September 1, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

The Board reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in a proposal if doing so is the best interest of the Fund. All proposals shall become the property of the NMI Retirement Fund.

//s// Richard S. Villagomez
Administrator

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• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

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- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

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Classified Ads

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All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Verlander becomes major's first 20-game winner



MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Justin Verlander became the majors' first

20-game winner, grinding through six innings in Detroit's 6-4 victory over Minnesota on Saturday.

Verlander (20-5) gave up four runs and eight hits with six strikeouts and three walks to become the first pitcher to win 20 games before the end of August since Arizona's Curt Schilling in 2002.

Luke Hughes had a home run, double and three RBIs for Minnesota and Jason Repko hit his first homer of the season.

Former Twin Delmon Young's RBI single in the seventh gave the Tigers the lead for good and put Verlander in position for the win.

The six innings tied a season low for Verlander, a 20-game winner for the first time—and the first time by a Tiger since Bill Gullickson in 1991.

Jose Valverde picked up his 39th save.

Alex Avila and Miguel Cabrera hit solo homers for the Tigers in the second inning off of Carl Pavano (6-11) and Cabrera added an RBI single in the seventh for a 6-4 lead.

Pavano gave up six runs—five earned—and nine hits in 6 2-3 innings.

There's been times I've picked these guys up and there's been times they've picked me up," Verlander said. "To get to 20 at this point in the season, obviously you can't do it all on your own. These guys have helped me along the way and today was a good example of that."

"Get the win and get the 20 so the 20 is out of the way and he's not searching for it anymore," Young said. "Now he can just go out there and try to win every start he goes out there because he's already got the magic number."

Red Sox 9, Athletics 3, 1st game Red Sox 4, Athletics 0, 2nd game

In Boston, David Ortiz hit a two-run homer and four Boston pitchers combined on a three-hitter to complete a sweep of a rain-delayed day-night doubleheader.

In the opener, Jason Varitek hit a two-run homer and Jon Lester allowed three hits in six innings. That game was delayed twice—45 minutes after the sixth inning and 2 hours, 15 minutes after the seventh.

There was a one-hour delay in the top of the fifth in the nightcap. The first game had been moved up to noon from 1:10 p.m. to make room for the second game that was rescheduled from Sunday to avoid Hurricane Irene's effects.

Erik Bedard allowed two singles in four innings in Game 2 before being replaced by Alfredo Aceves (9-1) when play resumed. He pitched three hitless innings. Daniel Bard allowed a single in the eighth before Jonathan Papelbon pitched a perfect ninth.

Ortiz went 5 for 8, driving in four runs in the doubleheader.

The Red Sox, 8-3 in their last 11 games, increased their AL East lead to two games over New York.

Angels 8, Rangers 4

In Arlington, Vernon Wells hit the first of the Angels' five solo home runs and had an RBI triple to back up Ervin Santana pitching on short rest.

Mike Trout and Bobby Wilson, the last two hitters in the lineup, both went deep in the fourth off C.J. Wilson



Detroit Tigers starting pitcher Justin Verlander (35) delivers against Minnesota Twins during the second inning of a baseball game, Saturday, Aug. 27, 2011, in Minneapolis. Verlander became the majors' first pitcher since Arizona's Curt Schilling in 2002 to earn his 20-game winner as Detroit won, 6-4.

(13-6), who gave up a career-worst four homers. Peter Bourjos also homered off the Texas starter.

Santana (10-9) pitched with only three days' rest for the first time in his career, and gave up four runs and four hits over seven innings.

Los Angeles is back within two games of first-place Texas in the AL West.

David Murphy homered for the Rangers, who have lost seven of 10 while their division lead dwindled from seven games.

Rays 6, Blue Jays 5

In Toronto, B.J. Upton barely missed a home run in the sixth inning, then hit a three-run shot in the seventh for Tampa Bay.

Upton's 18th homer put the Rays ahead 6-2, and Tampa Bay held on despite two late home runs by Toronto.

Upton led off the sixth with a long drive to left that landed just a few feet foul. Upton reached when Shawn Camp (1-3) hit him with the next pitch on the leg.

There was no doubt about Upton's drive off Jesse Litsch the next inning. It landed in the second deck in left scored Sam Fuld and Evan Longoria after both walked.

Rodriguez and Johnson both had three hits for the Rays.

Jeff Niemann (9-5) won for the fifth time in six starts. He allowed three runs and five hits in 6 1-3 innings.

Indians 8, Royals 7

In Cleveland, Asdrubal Cabrera hit a three-run homer in the eighth inning to lift Cleveland to the comeback win.

Cabrera homered off Louis Coleman (1-4) to give the Indians their 21st last-at-bat win and 32nd comeback triumph overall.

Joe Smith(notes) (3-3) got the final out in the eighth for the win and Chris Perez pitched the ninth for his 29th save.

Jim Thome celebrated his 41st birthday with a solo homer in the sixth—his 602nd—in his second game back in Cleveland to tie it at 4.

Alex Gordon, who had three hits, hit a three-run homer in the seventh off Tony Sipp, who relieved Fausto Carmona (6-13) to put the Royals ahead 7-4.

Cabrera's RBI single pulled Cleveland to 7-5 in the seventh.

In the eighth, pinch-hitter Lonnie Chisenhall singled with two outs and Kosuke Fukudome walked. Cabrera followed with his 21st homer.

White Sox 3, Mariners 0

In Seattle, John Danks threw a three-hitter and struck out 10 for Chicago.

It was Danks' third straight start of six-plus innings while allowing two or fewer runs. It was his second complete game of the year and second career shutout. His 10 strikeouts matched a career high.

Danks (6-9) retired 16 of the first 17 batters.

Paul Konerko had an RBI single and Alexei Ramirez had a sacrifice fly to give the White Sox a 2-0 lead in the fourth. De Aza added a solo home run in the eighth.

Mariners starter Michael Pineda (9-8) allowed two runs and three hits, all in the fourth inning.

Dodgers 7, Rockies 6

In Los Angeles, Matt Kemp hit a game-ending homer in the 11th inning for his 100th RBI of the season, giving Los Angeles a 7-6 victory over Colorado on Saturday.

The Dodgers overcame two two-run homers by Troy Tulowitzki to win their fifth straight.

James Loney tied the game in the ninth on a homer off the first pitch from Colorado's Rafael Betancourt, who recorded his fourth blown save in seven attempts. Kemp drove an 0-2 pitch

from Jason Hammel (7-13) into the right-field pavilion for his 31st homer of the season, ending a game that lasted 4 hours, 39 minutes.

Hammel was making his second relief appearance after being taken out of the starting rotation.

Mike MacDougal (1-1) pitched a perfect inning for the victory.

Tulowitzki's 50th multihit game tied him with the Mets' Jose Reyes for the National League lead.

Carlos Gonzalez of the Rockies extended two streaks: hits in 14 consecutive games and an RBI in 11 straight games, a club record and the longest in the majors this season, according to Stats LLC. He was 4 for 6 with two RBIs.

Brewers 6, Cubs 4

In Milwaukee, Yovani Gallardo matched a season high with 10 strikeouts over seven innings and Prince Fielder hit a 443-foot homer for Milwaukee.

Casey McGehee and Corey Hart homered for the Brewers, who moved 10 1/2 games ahead of St. Louis in the NL Central.

Gallardo (15-8) allowed one unearned run and got out of a bases-loaded jam in the seventh, but Alfonso Soriano's three-run double off LaTroy Hawkins in the eighth made things interesting.

McGehee's two-run homer off Ryan Dempster (10-10) gave Milwaukee a 3-0 lead after the first, and Fielder and Hart helped the Brewers build a 6-1 lead.

John Axford pitched the ninth for his 39th save, converting his 36th consecutive opportunity.

Milwaukee improved to a majors-best 49-16 at home.

Pirates 7, Cardinals 0

In St. Louis, Pittsburgh's Brad Lincoln pitched six innings and had an RBI double off Chris Carpenter.

Josh Harrison had three singles and

three RBIs, Garrett Jones had three hits with two doubles and Neil Walker homered for Pittsburgh.

Carpenter (8-9) lost for the third time in 15 career decisions against Pittsburgh, trudging through five innings while giving up six runs and nine hits.

Lincoln (1-0) filled in for injured Kevin Correia and scattered six hits to earn his second career victory. The other was a four-hit shutout at Chicago on June 30, 2010.

Lincoln had an RBI double in the fourth and walked and scored in the sixth. He is a career .350 hitter (7-for-20) with four RBIs.

Reds 6, Nationals 3

In Cincinnati, Brandon Phillips got two more hits in the leadoff spot and Cincinnati reached .500 for the first time since early July.

Phillips scored twice and drove in a run. He has a hit in 10 straight games at the top of the lineup, going 19 for 43 (.442) with 10 RBIs and nine runs in that span.

Mike Leake (11-8), who leads the team in wins, gave up two runs in six innings.

Cincinnati (66-66) has won six of eight and is at .500 for the first time since the NL Central champions were 44-44 on July 6. Drew Stubbs went 3 for 3 with a sacrifice fly.

Washington lost its fifth straight, one short of its season high.

Ross Detwiler (2-4) allowed three earned runs among his overall six in six innings.

Francisco Cordero pitched the ninth for his 29th save and 12th straight since the All-Star break.

Diamondbacks 3, Padres 1

In Phoenix, Chris Young hit a two-run homer and Joe Saunders pitched seven strong innings as Arizona stretched its winning streak to five games.

Saunders (9-11) ended a three-game losing streak and Young hit his 19th homer of the season from No. 6 spot.

J.J. Putz worked a perfect ninth for his 33rd save.

San Diego starter Aaron Harang (12-4) was solid but hurt himself with an error on a pickoff, losing for the first time in 10 road starts this season. The Padres have lost three straight since a season-high five-game winning streak.

Harang, who came in 6-0 in nine road starts, gave up three runs—two earned—and seven hits with eight strikeouts.

Saunders allowed an unearned run and four hits.

Giants 2, Astros 1, 10 innings

In San Francisco, Jeff Keppinger hit a run-scoring single with two outs in the bottom of the 10th inning to give San Francisco the victory.

Mark DeRosa, in as part of a double switch, singled with one out and then stole his first base in two years to set up the game-winner.

Jeremy Affeldt (3-2) got the final two outs of the 10th to earn the win.

Fernando Rodriguez (2-3) took the loss.

Carlos Beltran had two hits and drove in a run for the Giants, who have won two straight at home for the first time in over a month.

Carlos Lee had three hits and drove in a run for the Astros, who have lost six of seven.

Johnson beats rain and field at Barclays



EDISON, N.J. (AP)—The way Dustin Johnson began the final round of The Barclays, he figured the only thing that could keep him from winning was the rain.

Needing a good start, he opened with back-to-back birdies. In a bunker for the first time all week, he holed the 85-foot shot for eagle on No. 4 to take the lead. Even a wild tee shot on the par-5 fifth landed in trampled grass with a clear shot at the green.

And then it started raining.

Hard.

The Barclays, already reduced to 54 holes because of Hurricane Irene, would have reverted to a 36-hole tournament if the rain arrived early and kept the third round Saturday from finishing, making Matt Kuchar the winner.

"The way I got started, I was hoping that we were going to keep on playing," Johnson said.

The rain stopped. Johnson kept right on going.

He shot 29 on the front nine for the second straight day - he played the front in 17-under par for the week - to close with a 6-under 65 and win the opening FedEx Cup playoff event by two shots over Kuchar.

Johnson didn't take the lead for good until Kuchar, who won The Barclays a year ago on a different course, three-putted from long range just off the green on consecutive holes on the back nine to make bogeys. He closed with a 68.

"I had the two basic three-putts and for me, that seems just very uncharacteristic," Kuchar said. "I felt like I was just giving shots away."

Johnson, who moved to No. 4 in the world, finished at 19-under 194 for his first win of the year and fifth of his career. He became the first player since Tiger Woods to go straight from college and win in each of his first four years on the PGA Tour.

When the season began in Kapalua,



Dustin Johnson hits his tee shot on the 12th hole during the final round of The Barclays golf tournament Saturday, Aug. 27, 2011, in Edison, N.J.

Johnson was asked what players should expect from Woods in 2011. Johnson replied that he hoped to see Woods play well, but that it "doesn't bother me. I'm still going to win."

Johnson just didn't think it would take him until the first playoff event to hoist a trophy.

"I was never concerned - more frustrated than anything," he said. "Because I felt like I played some really good golf this year, just have not been able

to quite get it done. And it wasn't that my golf game was bad. Just the putts I needed to make, I just had not been able to make them. And this week, I didn't do anything crazy with the putter. I just made the ones I was supposed to."

He became the first player since Phil Mickelson to win two 54-hole events. Mickelson won the rain-shortened BellSouth Classic in 2000 and 2005. Johnson previously won the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am

in 2009 when the final round Sunday was washed out.

This one was different. Johnson knew Saturday was the final round, and he could only hope the round would be completed.

"We got lucky," he said. "The weather held up for us long enough."

Johnson wasn't the only big winner on Saturday.

Ian Poulter birdied four of his last five holes for a 64, making him one of eight players who moved inside the top 100 in the FedEx Cup standings and advance to the second playoff event next week outside Boston.

William McGirt, the last of the 125 players who qualified for the playoffs, birdied the 17th hole that pushed him to No. 96. Padraig Harrington went from No. 124 to No. 80 with his tie for 13th. And then there was Ernie Els. He would have been eliminated had the tournament been cut short to 36 holes. Els had a 67 to from 118th in the standings to No. 99.

"You're trying to survive. It's desperation," Els said. "It's sadistic. In a way it's fun, if you're into that (stuff)."

Johnson goes atop the FedEx Cup standings as the four-tournament race begins for the \$10 million prize.

The course was so soft and vulnerable to low scoring that Brandt Snedeker made an early run at 59 when he birdied his opening five holes and went out in 29. He was slowed by a bogey on the 14th and wound up with a 61 to tie for third with Vijay Singh, who had a 68.

Kuchar and Johnson, however, separated themselves quickly with a riveting front nine.

Johnson opened with back-to-back birdies to briefly take the lead, and then the fun began. Kuchar birdied the par-3 third for a two-shot swing when Johnson missed the green. Johnson responded with a two-shot swing of his own by driving into the bunker on the 328-yard fourth and holing out for eagle, while Kuchar had to scramble for par.

They matched birdies on the fifth, seventh and ninth greens, and that's

where Johnson showed that extra work on his putter was paying off. He holed a 25-foot birdie on the seventh when Kuchar already was in tight, then a tricky 12-foot putt on the ninth after Kuchar had laid back and spun his approach into 4 feet.

Kuchar caught Johnson with a 15-foot birdie on the 11th, but it unraveled after that.

Kuchar decided to lay up on the par-5 12th - Johnson was in the rough and had no choice - figuring that his wedge game would lead to birdie. But he was on a slope in between wedge, an awkward shot to a tough pin, and his shot landed in the middle and spun back off the green.

He rolled his putt some 6 feet past the hole and missed the next one for bogey to fall one shot behind. On the next hole, Kuchar again had a length putt from just off the green and rammed them past the hole and off the green on the other side to make another bogey. Just like that, he was two shots behind. Against Johnson, it was hard to make that up.

"Sunday tendencies are to come up a little short, and I gave it a little extra," Kuchar said. "Very frustrating because I feel like that's the strong part of my game."

Crews had removed the scoreboards before the last round because of the approaching hurricane, although it didn't matter to the guys trying to win the tournament. They knew were they stood.

It was farther down the list, where players were trying to get into the top 100 to keep chasing the \$10 million FedEx Cup, where it mattered. McGirt had some help from his wife, who was in the gallery.

From the 17th fairway, she flashed "101" with her fingers, to indicate where he was projected to finish in the standings. He pulled 7-iron and produced the "best swing I made all week, bar none" to 5 feet for birdie.

Now he gets to go through this roller coast again next week at the Deutsche Bank Championship.

"Heck yeah, man," McGirt said. "It's the playoffs."



CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP) -- Seeming upbeat as usual, Miami quarterback Jacory Harris did not hesitate when asked about the fast-approaching start of the Hurricanes' season.

"I expect to play," Harris said. "Yes, sir."

The NCAA will decide soon if that becomes reality.

Harris and many other Miami players implicated by the extra-benefits scandal that threatens to negatively impact the program for years spoke out for the first time Saturday about the mess. None provided any specifics about the claims that former booster and imprisoned Ponzi scheme architect Nevin Shapiro made to Yahoo Sports, alleging that he provided extra benefits to Hurricane players and recruits from 2002-10.

But many, like Harris, expressed some sense of optimism that they may be cleared in time to play Sept. 5, when Miami opens at Maryland.

"These people, they know what to do," defensive lineman Marcus Forston said.

"I'm very hopeful," wide receiver

QB Harris expects to play in Miami's opener

Travis Benjamin said.

"We know we're all we've got right now, this team," safety Ray Ray Armstrong said.

"My spirits are high. I'm the same person. I'm not letting it affect me," linebacker Sean Spence said.

They are among 12 current players known to be under investigation by the university, and presumably the NCAA, for their involvement with Shapiro. A person with knowledge of the process has told The Associated Press that eight players - Harris, Spence and Benjamin among them - have been declared ineligible by the university, which then turned the matter over to the NCAA and asked that a reinstatement process be expedited.

The school has confirmed that they asked the NCAA for rulings on Thursday. The school has not confirmed how many players are ineligible, nor any of the names involved. On Saturday, Miami coach Al Golden - while not discussing any players specifically - seemed to suggest much of the uni-

versity's investigation revolves around incidents that happened long ago.

"I was sad for the guys, because I think we all as individuals, we hope to grow, we hope to mature, we hope to learn from mistakes," Golden said. "These guys are no different. If what has been alleged, if there ends up being some truth to it and they do have to serve some penalties, it's three years ago. So not only are they different than they were last year, now we have to go back three years. That's why I feel bad for them."

Besides Harris, Forston, Spence, Benjamin and Armstrong, the other current players who were named by Shapiro in the Yahoo Sports article were Vaughn Telemaque, Aldarius Johnson, Olivier Vernon, Marcus Robinson, Adewale Ojomo, Dylon Dye and JoJo Nicholas.

Miami President Donna Shalala said several days ago that the school was trying to determine the eligibility status of 15 student-athletes. She did not specify names or how many were football players.

"Sometimes life's not fair," Miami center Tyler Horn said. "But I'm not worried about it. I'm focused on what I can control, and that's football."

Independent of the scandal, this Miami camp began with one giant question: Would Harris or Stephen Morris play quarterback?

As of Saturday, if that's been decided, no one is letting the secret out.

Both played well at times last year, and Golden has said even during this camp that the two are alternating with the first-string. Offensive coordinator Jedd Fisch said Saturday that even he doesn't yet know who will start.

"I have no idea what coach Golden and his staff are going to be doing in terms of the depth chart," Morris said.

Added Harris: "We're just taking it day-by-day, going out there every day, giving it our all, having fun. Whatever the depth chart says come whenever we have to release it, I think by Tuesday, then that's what it is and that's what's going into Maryland."

Harris' teammates said Saturday

they're impressed with the way he's handled the cloud hanging over his senior season.

"Jacory's Jacory," Morris said. "He's a happy guy all the time. Always smiling, always got a joke to say. He's just a great guy. ... All the situations that's going outside of this program, he's putting that behind him and is just focusing on football, focusing on this team."

Harris entertained questions for much of the allotted half-hour at the team's media day Saturday, doing so with typically the largest crowd of reporters gathered around him. He cracked a few one-liners, made fun of some teammates as they walked past, things he would have done under typical circumstances.

If he's frightened for his future, it wasn't showing.

"It's just a little bump in the road," Harris said. "It's something that we've got to get through. Whatever happens happens. At the end of the day, you've still got to weather the storm and fight through it. That's pretty much what we're doing as a team. We're going to fight through it and we're going to come out on top."

Blazers, Sonics down U19 opponents

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The CK Blazers and Sonics notched separate wins in the U19 division of the 20th Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.

The Blazers started a bit slow in the opener, but regrouped with a big push in the second quarter and held off a late rally by Hi-5 for a 61-59 nail-biter.

The Sonics then took the floor in the second game and methodically picked apart Kagman, 30-24, in what was a



The Sonics' Melvin Cadiang looks for a route to the basket after getting away from Kagman defenders during their game in the U19 division of the Rotary caging last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.

PACIFIC

From Page

color and the Kanak flags for the home team.

According to the Pacific Islands News Association, Sarkozy also declared the Games open and commended the President of the Organising Committee of the Games—Pascal Bastien-Thiry.

"We are very very happy because all the people were here, the 22 countries of the Games were here, it was a very warm atmosphere and the President of the Republic was there to open the Games so we are very

very proud and very honored with that, we are all happy," PINA quoted Bastien-Thiry.

"We are very proud because we didn't hope so much for our Pacific Games and for New Caledonia, so for all of us it's extraordinary. "We have visibility in the world."

The Games' opening ceremonies were televised live in the French Television network.

Meanwhile, after the opening, participants took a break yesterday and competition in the quadrennial event will start today.

The CNMI, which will be competing in golf, baseball, beach volleyball, and athletics, will not be seeing action in the

Games until tomorrow when the Commonwealth sluggers play Palau in their first game.

The CNMI-Palau tiff is an early rematch of last year's Micronesian Games finals. Joshua Jones, of the members of the 18-player CNMI Baseball Team, said they are doing well in practice for the past three days. The group arrived in Noumea last Tuesday.

"We're getting used to the turf field," said Jones, referring to the Baseball Mont-Dore.

Next up for the CNMI is host New Caledonia on Aug. 31, Guam on Sept. 2, American Samoa on Sept. 3, and Fiji on Sept. 5. The Commonwealth bets must make it to the Top 2 of their pool

highly defensive tiff.

The Sonics improved their card to 2-1, while the Blazers finally broke into the winner's column after their third try. Third time was not a charm for Hi-5, as its streak came to an end. Kagman has dropped two in a row after its debut victory.

Hi-5 took control early, 10-7, in the first quarter, and maintained a basket-lead at halftime, 27-25. Six Hi-5 players chipped in on the action, while Blazers' Brandon Aulerio kept his team in contention with 11 markers in the first half.

The Blazers caught a second wind in the third period and jumped ahead, 47-37, heading

to advance to the semifinals.

In beach volleyball, Chris Nelson and Tyce Mister will battle Palau and Tahiti on Sept. 5 at the Terrain de beach-volley Koutio in Dumbéa, Samoa on Sept. 6, and American Samoa on Sept. 7. The CNMI spikers should finish in the Top 3 to advance to the second round.

Golfers Jess Wabol, Jess Taylor, Adam Hardwicke, and Tony Satur will have the individual and team events from Sept. 6 to 8 at the Golf de Tina in the Nouméa, while athletics' Rachel Abrams, Trevor Ogumoro, and Douglas Dillay will start competing on Sept. 5 until Sept. 9.

The race in Japan was the 11th qualifying event for XTERRA World Championship and 34 triathletes were given slots to the main competition that will take place in Kapalua, Maui, Hawaii, on October 23 this year. Carey and Butch Sublemente had already qualified for XTERRA World, while other athletes will try to gain the remaining slots in upcoming races in Canada, Venezuela, Switzerland, and Utah.

Chad's Abdouraim Haroun had the best qualifying time in the 100m race, tallying 10.44 seconds and leading 12 other runners to the next round.

The two CNMI sprinters were done at the World Championships, as they were entered only in the 100m run. Bennett is expected to return to Boise tomorrow, while Pharmin will return to Saipan this Wednesday.

5, Admana 4, W. Camacho 2, Iglesias 2, Lansang 2, Vivero 2, Ano 2.

Kunoichi 20 – Pagarao 8, Williams 7, Castillo 3, Mesa 2

Scoring by quarters: 20-6, 32-10, 50-17, 66-20.

Third Game

NMC Proa 46 – S. DL Guerrero 10, Carlo 8, Aldan 6, Sanchez 6, Cepeda 4, J. Palacios 4, M. DL Guerrero 2, Manalili 2, T. Palacios 2.

MBI Rollers 27 – Darag 11, Cano 8, Cenir 4, De Luna 2, Sabino 2.

Scoring by quarters: 13-0, 26-7, 32-19, 46-27.

into the final frame. Aulerio tallied 11 more points in the third quarter.

Hi-5 saved gas in the tank for one final push, but perhaps ran out of time, as it came up a bucket short by the final buzzer.

Hi-5's Don Hockett and Nikko Salem mustered six points apiece in the clutch, but the Blazers drilled six free throws that helped secure the victory.

Aulerio turned in another gem for 25 points, while Hockett led Hi-5 with 11.

Both teams started cold in the second match, as the Sonics managed a slim 7-4 edge in the first period. Then the Sonics pulled ahead at halftime, 17-10, thanks to their speedy full court press.

The Sonics' game plan came together after some halftime adjustments and they trudged forward to a daunting 34-12 lead heading into the final period.

Surprisingly, however, Kagman did not go quietly as its defense contained the Sonics to just six markers in the final canto. In the end, the Sonics did

a good job of protecting the ball and milking the clock.

The Sonics' Ezra Caro led all scorers with eight points, while Kagman's Giovanni Olopai paced his team with six.

The U19 season continues tonight, as Rollers Basketball Club's 1 and 2 face off in the lone game today.

First Game

CK Blazers 61 – Aulerio 25, Torres 11, Kaipat 6, Eughbanks 2.

Hi-5 59 – Hockett 11, F. Macahito 9, G. Macahito 9, Atalig 4, Manibusan 2, Omarte 2.

Scoring by quarters: 7-10, 27-25, 47-37, 61-59

Second Game

Sonics 30 – Caro 8, De Guzman 6, A Palacios 4, Sula 3, Alegre 2, Ecalnea 2, Salem 2, Tudela 2, Villanueva 1.

Kagman 24 – Olopai 6, Dawe 4, Laniyo 4, Mettao 4, J. Norita 4, Teregeyo 2.

Scoring by quarters: 7-4, 17-10, 24-12, 30-24.



TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	82	51	.617	—
New York	78	51	.605	2
Tampa Bay	72	59	.550	9
Toronto	66	66	.500	15 1/2
Baltimore	52	77	.403	28

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	73	59	.553	—
Cleveland	65	64	.504	6 1/2
Chicago	65	65	.500	7
Minnesota	55	77	.417	18
Kansas City	54	79	.406	19 1/2

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	75	59	.560	—
Los Angeles	72	60	.545	2
Oakland	60	73	.451	14 1/2
Seattle	56	75	.427	17 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	83	46	.643	—
Atlanta	79	54	.594	6
New York	62	68	.477	21 1/2
Washington	62	69	.473	22
Florida	59	72	.450	25

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	80	54	.597	—
St. Louis	69	64	.519	10 1/2
Cincinnati	66	66	.500	13
Pittsburgh	62	70	.470	17
Chicago	57	76	.429	22 1/2
Houston	43	90	.323	36 1/2

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	74	59	.556	—
San Francisco	71	62	.534	3
Colorado	63	70	.474	11
Los Angeles	62	69	.473	11
San Diego	60	73	.451	14

Yesterday's Games

Boston 9, Oakland 3 1st game	
N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore, doubleheader, ppd., rain	
Tampa Bay 6, Toronto 5	
Detroit 6, Minnesota 4	
Boston 4, Oakland 0 2nd game	
Cleveland 8, Kansas City 7	
L.A. Angels 8, Texas 4	
Chicago White Sox 3, Seattle 0	
Florida at Philadelphia, doubleheader, ppd., rain	
L.A. Dodgers 7, Colorado 6, 11 innings	
Pittsburgh 7, St. Louis 0	
Atlanta at New York, ppd., hurricane threat	
Milwaukee 6, Chicago Cubs 4	

Cincinnati 6, Washington 3
Arizona 3, San Diego 1
San Francisco 2, Houston 1, 10 innings

BARCLAYS OPEN SCORES

EDISON, New Jersey (AP)—Scores Saturday from The Barclays, an \$8 million US PGA Tour FedEx Cup playoff at the 6,964-yard, par-71 Plainfield Country Club Course: Shortened to 54 holes due to Hurricane Irene

Final Round

Dustin Johnson	66-63-65 —194
Matt Kuchar	63-65-68 —196
Vijay Singh	65-64-68 —197
Brandt Snedeker	70-66-61 —197
Jonathan Byrd	65-66-67 —198
Brian Davis	69-66-64 —199
Justin Rose	67-65-67 —199
Camilo Villegas	68-66-65 —199
Y.E. Yang	70-66-63 —199
Charley Hoffman	66-66-68 —200
Webb Simpson	71-66-63 —200
Nick Watney	67-69-64 —200
Aaron Baddeley	66-66-69 —201
Jason Day	67-68-66 —201
Padraig Harrington	65-67-69 —201
Scott Piercy	72-65-64 —201
Gary Woodland	70-66-65 —201
Luke Donald	70-66-66 —202
Charles Howell III	69-69-64 —202
Ian Poulter	71-67-64 —202
Rory Sabbatini	68-66-68 —202
Chris Stroud	65-69-68 —202
Jimmy Walker	71-64-67 —202
Bill Haas	67-68-68 —203
Jerry Kelly	69-69-65 —203
Anthony Kim	68-67-68 —203
William McGirt	64-69-70 —203
Kyle Stanley	68-66-69 —203
Steve Stricker	69-68-66 —203
Bo Van Pelt	67-68-68 —203
Mark Wilson	69-66-68 —203
Kevin Chappell	67-69-68 —204
K.J. Choi	70-67-67 —204
Ernie Els	68-69-67 —204
Trevor Immelman	67-70-67 —204
Fredrik Jacobson	67-68-69 —204
Marc Leishman	69-68-67 —204
Carl Pettersson	69-66-69 —204
Kevin Streelman	69-66-69 —204
Cameron Tringale	74-63-67 —204
Sergio Garcia	68-66-70 —204
Bill Lunde	69-69-66 —204
Arjun Atwal	67-71-67 —205
Greg Chalmers	70-68-67 —205
Hunter Mahan	68-69-68 —205
Graeme McDowell	72-65-68 —205
John Merrick	68-68-69 —205
Phil Mickelson	67-70-68 —205
Ryan Palmer	66-72-67 —205

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MIEKO

From Page 28

RA Planet, the official website of XTERRA World Tour, also had Carey's victory in its headlines, while triathlon.competitor.com carried the same story.

No other details about Carey's split times were available at press time, but she was the lone female pro entered in the event

BENNETT

From Page 28

12.37 seconds and though she missed a record in Korea, her 12.78 seconds was better than Heat 4 qualifier Alda Paulo (12.85 seconds) of Angola. Bennett also finished ahead of 15 other runners, as she was ranked 20th overall among 36

and finished ahead of tough Japanese amateurs, including former age-group XTERRA World champions Kimiko Matsuda and Keiji Matsuba and former XTERRA Warrior award winner Tae Yoong Kim.

Joining Carey in the winner's circle was four-time XTERRA World champion Conrad Stoltz of South Africa. Stoltz timed in at 2:18:25 to foil the upset bid of American Will Kelsay, who

was just less than two minutes behind the South African, submitting 2:19:41.

Former XTERRA Saipan Championship participants Takahiro Ogawara of Japan and Great Britain's Michael Hiscott finished third and fourth, respectively with their times of 2:27:43 and 2:29:51, while Paul David, also of Great Britain, rounded out the Top 5 with his 2:49:47.

participants. Only 35 completed the race, as one runner was disqualified.

Cameroon's Delphine Atangana logged the fastest qualifying time in the 100m run with her 11.57 seconds.

In the men's 100m run, Pharmin duplicated his PB after submitting 12.60 seconds on Heat 3. Burkina Faso's Gerard Kobeane topped the

heat with his 10.64 seconds and was followed by Aruba's Geronimo Goele (10.73 seconds), Singapore's Foo Ee Yeo (10.76 seconds), Congo's Delivert Arsene Kimbembe (10.85 seconds), Tonga's Joseph Andy Lui (11.48 seconds), Liberia's Bledde Jarry (11.49 seconds), Samoa's Ah Chong Sam Chong (12.36 seconds), and Pharmin.

Ivan Sanarez at the start of the fourth frame set the tone as his teammates ran up the score from that point.

Shane DL Guerrero scrambled for a team-high 10 points, while MBI's John Sam Darag managed 11 in the loss.

The Party Rockers stunned Lil' Angels, 16-2, in the opening eight minutes of the curtain raiser and maintained a comfortable 24-13 cushion at midpoint.

Then both teams traded baskets in the third period, as Party Rockers kept pace with Lil' Angels to remain in front, 35-23, heading into the payoff period.

Party Rockers played it smart

at crunch time and held off the Lil' Angels in the final stand.

Individual scoring statistics were not made available, however, the roster lists show that the seven-member female Party crew bested an opposing roster with a bench over twice its depth.

The season continues this Saturday from 11am to 3pm. Three matches will be played, however the official schedule has not yet been released.

Second Game

670 Rollers 66 – Feria 16, Factor 12, Malonzo 9, Espinosa 8, Floresca 6, T. Pangelinan

The Week in Sports

CNMI athletes off to Pacific Games

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

It was a send-off week for CNMI athletes competing in the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia.

First to leave Saipan for the quadrennial event was the CNMI Baseball Team composed of Joshua Jones, Juan Maratita, Eric Tenorio, Ian Rogolifoi, Keoni Lizama, Mike Iguel, Vince Cepeda, Elton Santos, Jesus Iguel, Tyrone Omar, Franco Flores, Thomas Joab, Jerome Delos Santos, Byron Kaipat, Manny Sablan, and Craig Sanchez. Manager Tony Rogoligoi and Saipan Major League Baseball's Rose Igitol joined the group.

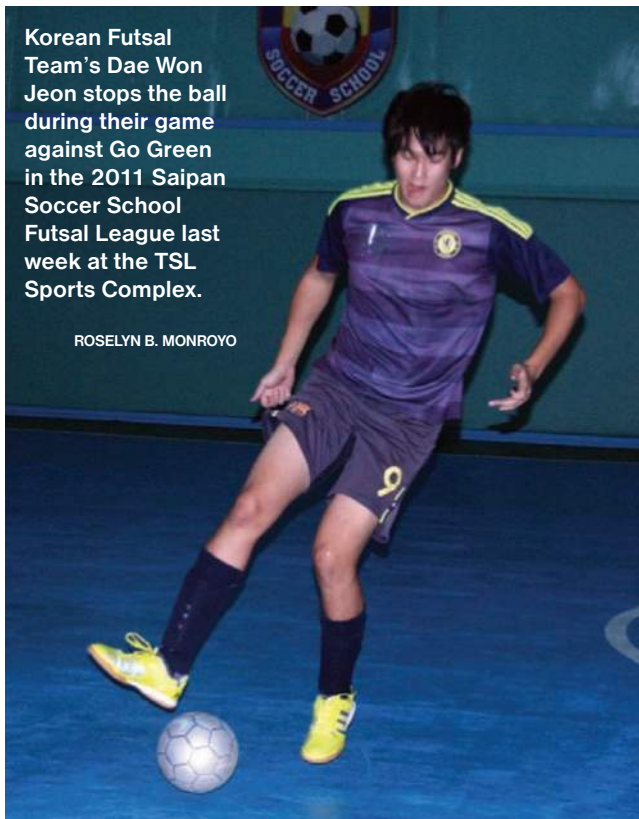
Beach volleyball's Tyce Mister and Chris Nelson left next, followed by NMASA president Michael White. The four-player CNMI Golf Team was next, boarding a flight to New Caledonia early Saturday morning to make it in time for the opening cer-



Members and officials of the CNMI Baseball Team pose for a group photo before leaving Saipan for New Caledonia last Monday. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

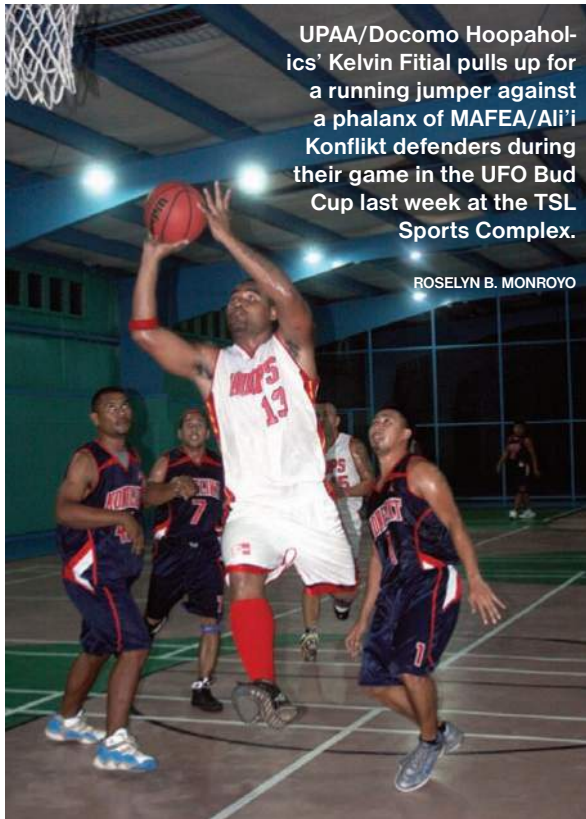
Korean Futsal Team's Dae Won Jeon stops the ball during their game against Go Green in the 2011 Saipan Soccer School Futsal League last week at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



UPAA/Docomo Hoopaholics' Kelvin Fitial pulls up for a running jumper against a phalanx of MAFEA/Al'i Konflikt defenders during their game in the UFO Bud Cup last week at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



emonies late afternoon.

Trevor Ogumoro, Rachel Abrams, and Douglas Dillay of athletics missed the opening rites as they left Saipan

Kagman's Jon Laniyo takes it to the hoop during their game against Rollers 2 in the Rotary U19 caging last week at the TSL Sports Complex.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND



Tsunami Saipan's Kensuke Kimura plunges into the pool for the 40m butterfly race in the 2011 Hong Kong-Saipan Goodwill Meet held last week at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Right, VisMinda/PIAHI's Ray Lizama, right, pulls up for an open layup after wiping out the defense of MAFEA/RNV's Elmer Esdreton during the masters division game in the UFO Docomo Cup last week at the TSL Sports Complex.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Tsunami Saipan's Angel Marie Tan, center, runner-up Angel de Jesus, left, and Miku Tammy receives the medals in the 40m backstroke event in the 2011 Hong Kong-Saipan Goodwill Meet held last week at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool.



Johnson beats
rain and field at
Barclays

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Verlander
becomes
major's first
20-game
winner

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

28 MONDAY, AUGUST 29, 2011

Noumea Games opens with a bang



Male dancers perform in the opening ceremonies for the 2011 Pacific Games at the Stade Numa Daly in Noumea, New Caledonia last Saturday.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Over 2,000 spectators joined the more than 4,000 athletes and officials in the colorful opening ceremonies for the 14th Pacific Games at the Stade Numa Daly in Noumea, New Caledonia last Saturday.

Mieko tops XTERRA Japan for third time

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Congratulatory messages flooded the unofficial CNMI triathlon group site and other triathlon website last weekend after Mieko Carey ruled XTERRA Japan Championship for the third straight year.

The Commonwealth triathlete timed in at three hours and 25 seconds in the 1.2-kilometer swim, 25-km mountain bike race, and 10-km run off-road event held Saturday in Mar-



The CNMI's Mieko Carey celebrates her finish at the 2011 XTERRA Japan Championship last Saturday in Marunuma.



Members and officials of the CNMI Baseball Team pose at the Athletes Village before heading to Stade Numa Daly in Noumea, New Caledonia for the opening of the 2011 Pacific Games last Saturday.

Fireworks display, traditional dances from New Caledonian volunteers, lighting of the Games torch, and parade of the 22 participating nations were some of the highlights in the opening rites where French President Nicolas Sarkozy served as the guest of honor. New Caledonia tennis star Nicola Pietrangeli and swimmer Lara Grangeon carried the Tri-

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unuma, Gunma Prefecture to claim the women's championship. Carey's 2011 winning time was faster than the 3:03:00 she logged last year, and just nine seconds shy of her best time in XTERRA Japan (3:00:16/2009).

"You rock Mieko," Wolf Mojica, president of Taga, Inc. and one of the organizers of XTERRA Saipan and Tagaman Triathlon, wrote in the NMIF group site. Others members of the group called Carey a "super woman" for winning the event three times in a row and praised her for an amazing job. XTER-

See MIEKO on Page 26

Bennett nearly advances at World Championships

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

CNMI sprinters Yvonne Bennett and Orrin Pharmin finished their respective races in the 2011 IAAF World Championships in Daegu, Korea with the former almost making it to the next round of the Saturday run.

Bennett timed in at 12.78 seconds in the 100m preliminary run to place fifth on Heat 5, just one notch away from advancing to the second round of the sprint race. Only the Top 4 runners on Heat 5 marched into the next phase of the event.

Malaysia's Norjannah Hafiszah Jamaludin ruled Heat 5 with her 12.06 seconds. Mozambique's Anatecia Quive came in at second with her 12.31 seconds, followed by San Marino's Martina Pretelli

(12.47 seconds), and Macedonia (12.48 seconds).

Despite failing to move into the next round of the 100m run, Bennett still finished ahead of fellow Pacific region runners. She defeated Vanuatu's Susana Tama (13.29 seconds) and Tonga's Belinda Talakal (13.73 seconds).

Bennett's time in Korea was also faster than her World Championship debut in Osaka, Japan (2007) where she posted

13.16 seconds and was ranked seventh among nine runners on Heat 2. The Boise State University track team member also joined the World Championships in Germany in 2009, but got sick and eventually didn't race.

The CNMI and Micronesian record-holder listed her 2011 and personal best time at

See BENNETT on Page 26



670 Rollers, NMC Proa win debuts

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER



The 670 Rollers and NMC Proa recorded blow-out wins, while the Party Rockers survived their foes, as the U15 division of the 20th Annual Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League opened last Saturday at the

TSL Sports Complex.

The Rollers ran over Kunoichi, 66-20, in the second game, while NMC Proa routed the MBI Rollers, 46-27, in the closer. Party Rockers fended off the Lil' Angles, 46-38, in the opening match.

In the second match, 670 Rollers pole-vaulted in front, 20-6, over Kunoichi in the first quarter, as Emerson Feria and Prince Fac-

tor tallied six points apiece.

Kunoichi was then stuffed again to just four free throws in the second period, as the Rollers pulled away, 32-10, at the break.

The match would soon be out of reach as the count shifted to 50-17, heading into the final period. Rollers' Feria, Factor, and Irvin Malonzo each chipped in with six points in the third quarter. The 670

Rollers went on to run up the score in the final canto.

Feria finished with a game-high 16 points, while Kunoichi's Lalaine Pagarao managed eight in the loss.

See 670 on Page 26

NMC Proa's Tyler Palacios pulls up for jumper during their game against the MBI Rollers in the U15 division of the Rotary caging last Saturday at the TSL Sports Complex.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

